



# Prohibited Plants List

*The following plants should not be planted within the City of North Miami.*

*They do not require a Tree Removal Permit to remove.*



# Comprehensive List of Exempted Species

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Abrus precatorius</i>	Rosary pea
<i>Acacia auriculiformis</i>	Earleaf acacia
<i>Adenanthera pavonina</i>	Red beadtrees, red sandalwood
<i>Aibezia lebbek</i>	woman's tongue
<i>Albizia lebeck</i>	Woman's tongue, lebeck tree, siris tree
<i>Antigonon leptopus</i>	Coral vine, queen's jewels
<i>Araucaria heterophylla</i>	Norfolk Island pine
<i>Ardisia crenata</i>	Scratchthroat, coral ardisia
<i>Ardisia elliptica</i>	Shoebutt, shoebutt ardisia
<i>Bauhinia purpurea</i>	orchid tree; Butterfly Tree; Mountain Ebony
<i>Bauhinia variegata</i>	orchid tree; Mountain Ebony; Buddhist Bauhinia
<i>Bischofia javanica</i>	bishop wood
<i>Brassia actinophylla</i>	schefflera
<i>Calophyllum antillanum</i>	=C inophyllum
<i>Casuarina equisetifolia</i>	Australian pine
<i>Casuarina spp.</i>	Australian pine, sheoak, beefwood
<i>Catharanthus roseus</i>	Madagascar periwinkle, Rose Periwinkle; Old Maid; Cape Periwinkle
<i>Cestrum diurnum</i>	Dayflowering jessamine, day blooming jasmine, day jessamine
<i>Cinnamomum camphora</i>	Camphortree, camphor tree
<i>Colubrina asiatica</i>	Asian nakedwood, leatherleaf, latherleaf
<i>Cupaniopsis anacardioides</i>	Carrotwood
<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i>	Indian rosewood, sissoo
<i>Dioscorea alata</i>	White yam, winged yam

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Dioscorea bulbifera</i>	Air potato, bitter yam, potato vine
<i>Eichhornia crassipes</i>	Common water-hyacinth, water-hyacinth
<i>Epipremnum pinnatum</i>	pothos; Taro Vine; Devil's Ivy; Hunter's Robe; Golden Ceylon Creeper; Ivy Arum
<i>Eugenia uniflora</i>	Surinam Cherry; Brazil Cherry; Cayenne Cherry
<i>Euphorbia tirucalli</i>	pencil tree
<i>Ficus altissima</i>	Council tree, lofty fig, banyan tree, false banyan
<i>Ficus anura</i>	figus
<i>Ficus benghalensis</i>	Banyan tree, banyan fig, Indian banyan, East Indian fig tree, Bengal fig
<i>Ficus benjamina</i>	figus
<i>Ficus elastica</i>	rubber tree plant or ficus
<i>Ficus microcarpa</i>	Indian laurel, laurel fig, Malay banyan, Chinese banyan, glossy leaf banyan*
<i>Flacourtia indica</i>	Governor's plum, Madagascar plum, batoko plum, ramonchi
<i>Hydrilla verticillata</i>	Water thyme, hydrilla
<i>Hygrophila polysperma</i>	Indian swampweed, green hygro
<i>Hymenachne amplexicaulis</i>	Trompetilla, West Indian marsh grass
<i>Imperata cylindrica</i>	Cogongrass
<i>Ipomoea aquatica</i>	Water-spinach
<i>Jasminum dichotomum</i>	Gold Coast jasmine
<i>Jasminum fluminense</i>	Brazilian jasmine, jazmin de trapo
<i>Kalanchoe pinnata</i>	life plant; Air Plant; Floppers; Love Plant; Curtain Plant; Mother-in-law; Good Luck Leaf; Miracle Leaf; Sprouting Leaf; Live-Forever; Cathedral Bells
<i>Leucaena leucocephala</i>	White leadtree, lead tree, jumbie bean, tan-tan
<i>Ludwigia peruviana</i>	Peruvian primrosewillow
<i>Lygodium spp. except L. palmatum</i>	Climbing fern, e.g. Old World climbing fern, Japanese climbing fern
<i>Macfadyena unguis-cati</i>	Catclaw vine

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Malaleuca leucadendra</i>	malaleuca
<i>Melaleuca quinquenervia</i>	Punk tree, melaleuca, cajeput, paperbark tree, tea tree, swamp tea tree
<i>Melia azedarach</i>	Chinaberrytree, Chinaberry
<i>Merremia tuberosa</i>	yellow morning-glory, woodrose, Hawaiian woodrose
<i>Metropium toxiferum</i>	poison wood
<i>Mikania micrantha</i>	Mile-a-minute, bittervine
<i>Mimosa pigra</i>	Black mimosa, Catclaw mimosa
<i>Murraya paniculata</i>	orange jessamine; Chalcas; Satinwood; Chinese Box; Cosmetic Bark Tree; Marilla
<i>Neyraudia reynaudiana</i>	Burmareed, silkreed
<i>Paederia</i> spp.	Sewervine, skunkvine, onion vine
<i>Panicum repens</i>	Torpedograss
<i>Pennisetum purpureum</i>	Elephantgrass, Napiergrass
<i>Pistia stratiotes</i>	Water lettuce
<i>Pittosporum pentandrum</i>	n/a
<i>Pongamia pinnata</i>	= Derris indica
<i>Pouteria campechiana</i>	canistel; Eggfruit; Ti-Es, Sapote Borracho, Sapote Amarillo
<i>Psidium guajava</i>	guava
<i>Pueraria montana</i> var. <i>lobata</i>	Kudzu
<i>Rhodomyrtus tomentosa</i>	Rose myrtle, Downy rose-myrtle
<i>Rhoeo spathacea</i>	oyster plant; Boat Lily; Moses in the Cradle; Man in a Boat
<i>Rhynchelytrum repens</i>	Rose natalgrass, Natal grass
<i>Ricinus communis</i>	castorbean
<i>Sansevieria hyacinthioides</i>	= <i>S. trifasciata</i>
<i>Sapium sebiferum</i>	Popcorn tree, Chinese tallow tree



# Comprehensive List of Exempted Species

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Scientific Name	Common Name
<i>Scaevola taccada</i>	Beach naupaka, scaevola, half-flower
<i>Schefflera actinophylla</i>	Australian umbrella tree, octopus tree, Queensland umbrella tree
<i>Schinus terbinthifolius</i>	Brazilian pepper tree
<i>Schinus terebinthifolius</i>	Brazilian pepper, Christmas berry tree, Florida holly
<i>Senna pendula</i> var. <i>glabrata</i>	Valamuerto, Climbing cassia, Christmas cassia, Christmas senna
<i>Solanum tampicense</i>	Aquatic soda apple, wetland nightshade
<i>Solanum viarum</i>	Tropical soda apple
<i>Syngonium podophyllum</i>	arrowhead; Nepthysis; African Evergreen
<i>Syzigium jambos</i>	rose apple, Malabar Plum
<i>Syzygium cumini</i>	jambolan; Java Plum, Jambool, Jambu
<i>Talipariti tiliaceum</i>	Mahoe, sea hibiscus, yellow mahoe
<i>Tectaria incisa</i>	Incised halberd fern
<i>Terminalia catappa</i>	tropical almond; Kamani; Myrobalan; India Almond
<i>Thespesia populnea</i>	Portia tree, seaside mahoe, cork tree, false rosewood
<i>Tradescantia pendula</i>	Zebrina pendula; wandering zebrine; Wandering Jew; Inch Plant
<i>Tribulus cistoides</i>	Puncture vine, burrnut, Jamaican feverplant, billy-goat weed, large yellow caltrop
<i>Urochloa mutica</i>	Paragrass
<i>Washingtonia robusta</i>	Washington Palm, Mexican Fan Palm
<i>Wedelia trilobata</i>	Wedelia

## Ricinus communis (castorbean)

*R. communis* is a fast-growing shrub or small tree which is a highly prolific and precocious producer of toxic seeds, very adaptable to different environments and has been widely distributed by man. It is reported invasive or weedy in many countries particularly in the tropics and since dense thickets shade out native flora it is able to have negative impacts on biodiversity. Weed risk assessments in the USA and Caribbean have rejected its use as a bioenergy crop due to its high invasive potential (Gordon et al., 2011; Bridgemohan and Bridgemohan, 2014).

Source: <http://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/47618>





## Psidium guajava (guava)

Psidium guajava is a shrub or small tree, sometimes growing as high as 30ft, but usually no more than 10-15ft. Guava's grow well in full sun, except in hot regions, where partial shade is beneficial. If trying to grow in a marginal climate, plant near a building or provide some sort of protection from damaging cold winds and rain. Generally, guava's are fairly adaptable and will flourish with little care. Flowers will self-pollinate and fruit develops in a few months. There may be multiple fruiting and flowering seasons throughout the year, depending on local climate conditions. Guava's are shallow rooted and prefer lots of moisture throughout the year (except if cold), although they will withstand periods of drought, as well as dry seasonal changes. Keep the soil especially moist during flower and fruit set. The guava will tolerate poor soils, but grows much better when fertilized monthly, or when grown in soil that is high in organic material. They are not tolerant of salty soils.

Source: <http://www.tradewindsfruit.com/content/guava.htm>





# Schinus terbinthifolius (Brazilian pepper tree)

## Description

Brazilian pepper-tree is a shrub or small tree that reaches over 30 feet in height, typically with a short trunk hidden in a thicket of branches. Some trees can live over 30 years. The leaves are alternately arranged with 1-2 inch long, elliptic, and finely toothed leaflets. The leaves are also reddish, often possessing a reddish mid-rib. The flower clusters are white and 2-3 inches long with male and female flowers that look very similar. The glossy fruits are borne in clusters that are initially green, becoming bright red when ripe. Seeds are dark brown and 0.3 mm in diameter. Flowering occurs from September through November and fruits are usually mature by December.

Birds and mammals are the primary mechanisms for dispersal, although seeds may be transported via flowing water. Seeds are viable for up to 2 months, losing viability as time progresses. Germination is improved by scarification. Typically, acids in an animal's digestive tract provide adequate scarification required for germination. The invasiveness of Brazilian pepper tree in Florida can be attributed to its high germination rates and dispersal agents.

Source: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/schinus-terbinthifolius/>





# Aibezzia lebbek (woman's tongue)

## Appearance

Deciduous, unarmed tree to 20 m (65 ft) tall, with a rounded, spreading crown and pale bark.

## Leaves

Alternate, twice compound, with 2–5 pairs of pinnae, each pinna with 3–10 pairs of leaflets; leaflets elliptic-oblong, 2–4 cm (1–2 in) long. Usually asymmetrical at base, dull green above, paler green below.

## Flowers

Mimosa-like, in showy, rounded clusters near stem tips, 5–6 cm (2–2.5 in) across, cream or yellowish-white; each flower with numerous long stamens.

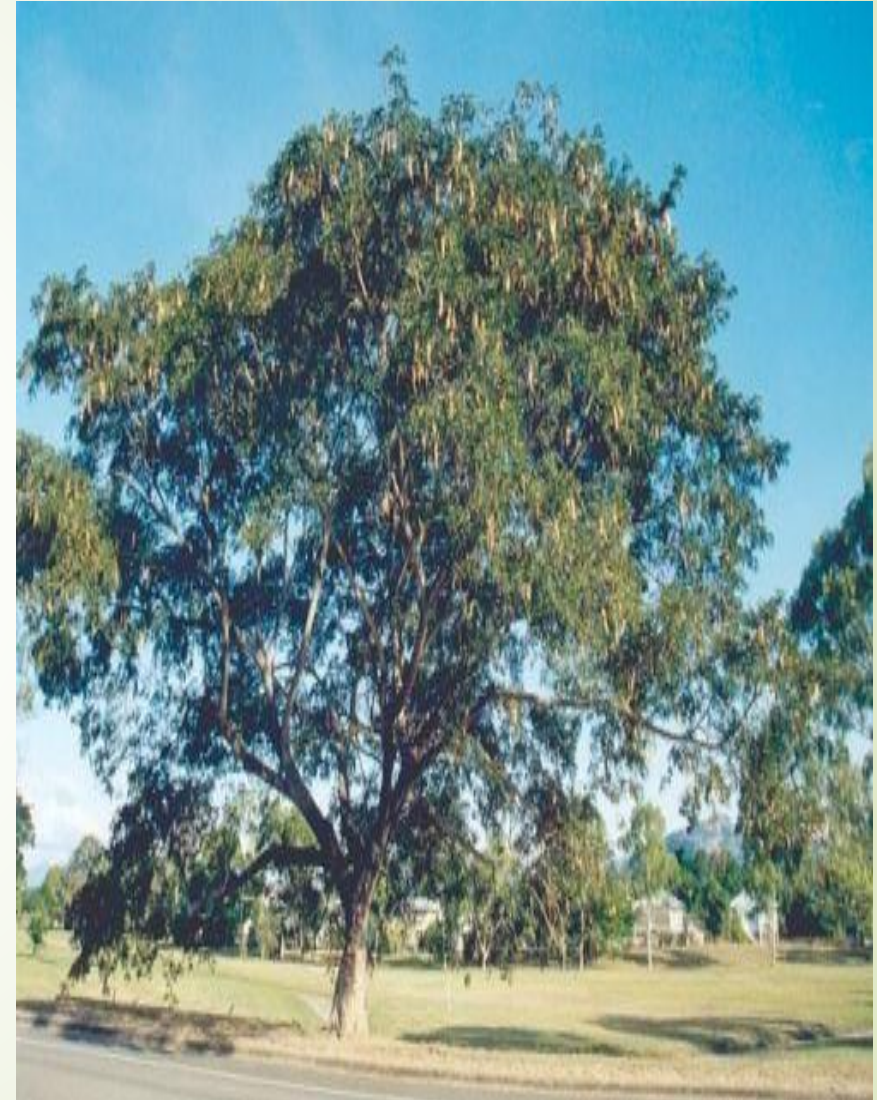
## Fruit

Flat, linear pod, to 30 cm (1 ft) long, with many seeds; dried pods persistent after leaf-fall, often heard rattling in the wind.

## Ecological threat

Invading tropical hammocks in the Florida Keys and the somewhat disturbed pinelands of Everglades National Park. Also invading pine rocklands and canopy gaps in the rockland hammocks in Dade County.

Source: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/albizia-lebbeck/>





## Metropium toxiferum (poison wood)

**Size/Form:** Poisonwood is an evergreen shrub or medium tree that reaches heights of 25' to 35' or taller. It characteristically has a short trunk with stout arching limbs and drooping branches that form a spreading, rounded crown. Poisonwood is often a shrub in the pinelands and a larger tree in the hammocks.

**Leaves:** The leaves are odd-pinnately compound, alternately arranged, 6" to 10" long, and have 3 to 7, usually 5 leaflets. Each leaflet is 3" to 4" long by 2" to 3" wide and broadest near the base or middle. The oval to elliptical leaflets have smooth, glossy, dark green upper surfaces and are paler underneath. The leaf stem is smooth or finely hairy and swollen at the base. The leaflet base is wedged, rounded, or heart-shaped and the tip is acute or rounded. In addition to its leathery appearance, the leaflet has a margin that is thickened, slightly curled, and entire. Many leaflets will be blotched with irregular spots of black resin.

**Fruit:** The fruit is a yellow-orange drupe that is about ½" long. The fruit hangs loosely in clusters and each drupe contains one, ¼", hard, brown seed.

**Bark:** The reddish-brown or gray bark is thin and has dark, oily patches from the gummy sap. Older trunks have scaly bark.

**Habitat:** Poisonwood grows near salt water on shorelines and in sandy dunes, tropical and coastal hammocks, and Rockland pinelands.

**Source:**

[http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/4h/ecosystems/\\_plants/Poisonwood/index.html](http://www.sfrc.ufl.edu/extension/4h/ecosystems/_plants/Poisonwood/index.html)



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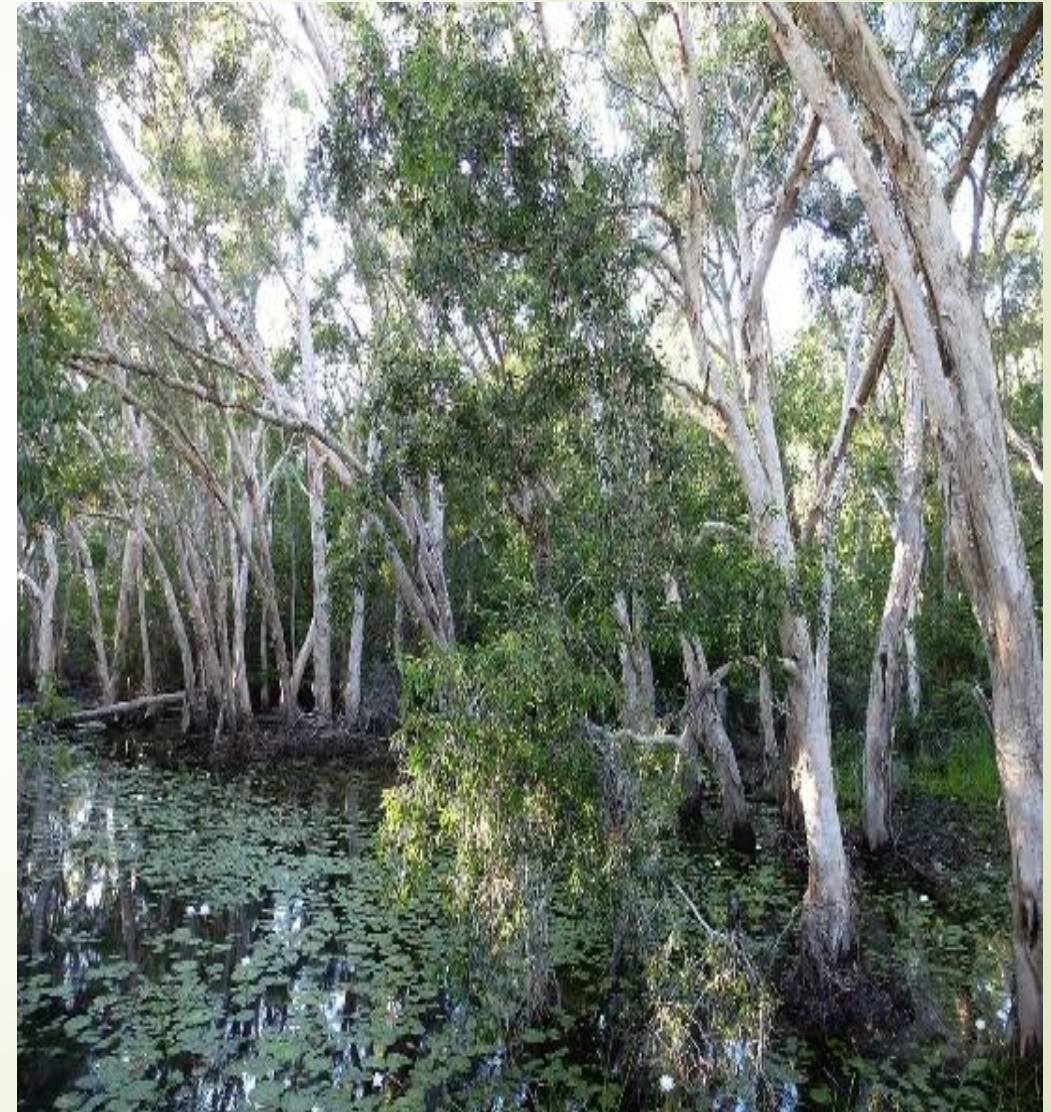


# Malaleuca leucadendra (malaleuca)

## Description

This evergreen tree originates from the South Pacific where it is native to Australia, New Guinea, and the Solomon Islands. In the United States it is non-native and invasive and is found in Louisiana and south of central Florida, where it invades a variety of habitat types ranging from wet swamps to dry uplands. Melaleuca grows well in partial shade and can reach heights of up to 100 feet. Leaves are simple and alternate, and can grow to lengths of 4 inches. The grayish green leaves have a narrow lanceolate shape, entire margins, and 5 to 7 parallel veins that run from the tip of the leaf blade down to its base. When the leaves are crushed they release an aroma similar to camphor. The outer bark is whitish and soft, and peels into thin layers, revealing a reddish inner bark. During the spring and summer months, fragrant white flowers bloom in clusters shaped like bottle brushes. Fruits are small (3/8 inch), woody, cylindrical capsules borne in clusters on young branchlets, and each capsule houses between 200 to 300 tiny seeds.

Source: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fr319>





# Bischofia javanica (bishop wood)

## Description

Evergreen tree commonly 12-18 m (35-60 ft) in height, with dense, rounded head, smooth branches, and milky sap. Leaves alternate, long-petioled, trifoliate (3 leaflets); leaflets shiny, bronze-toned, oval-elliptic, 15-20 cm (6-8 in) long, with margins small toothed. Flowers tiny, without petals, greenish-yellow, in many-flowered clusters (racemes) at leaf axils; male and female flowers on separate plants (dioecious). Fruit pea-sized, berrylike, fleshy, to 9 mm (0.33 in) in diameter, brown or reddish or blue-black, 3-celled.

## Identification Tips

Leaves are bright green, shiny, with prominent veins and toothed edges. Stems are reddish.

<https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/bischofia-javanica/>





# Casuarina equisetifolia (Australian pine)

## Description

This evergreen tree is native to Australia, the South Pacific Islands, and Southeast Asia, but it has successfully naturalized in all of Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and in Florida south of Orlando. It has become established and grows vigorously on disturbed sites such as roadsides and filled wetlands, and is commonly seen along coastlines in Florida. Australian pine is salt tolerant and grows well in sandy soil. Thriving in bright, full sunlight, this tree can reach heights of up to 100 feet with a canopy spread of up to 40 feet. A magnifying glass is needed to see the 0.25-inch-long evergreen leaves that press against the 0.03-inch-diameter stems in a whorled or circular pattern. The bark is red-brown to gray and appears to be constantly peeling from the trunk. The inconspicuous male and female flowers occur on the same tree and bloom twice a year in Florida, first in April and then again in June. The small cone-like structures appear in June and December, producing hundreds of thousands of winged seeds that then disperse with the wind or are eaten by foraging animals that digest and then expel the seed at different locations.

Source: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/casuarina-species/>





## Brassia actino-phylla (schefflera)

The large, palmately compound, shiny leaves sit atop the multiple, thin, bare trunks of Schefflera, creating much the impression of an exotic, 25-foot-tall plant-umbrella. Schefflera lends a tropical effect to any landscape use, from patio containers to interiorscapes to protected outdoor locations. Capable of reaching 40 feet in height, Schefflera will grow rapidly to create a dense windbreak or screen for property lines. When grown in full sun, trees will produce flowers during the summer, an unusual arrangement of small blooms on three-foot-diameter, stiff terminal clusters. These clusters are held above the foliage and are arranged like the ribs of an inverted umbrella, or like the tentacles of an octopus. The red blooms are followed by reddish-purple, half-inch fruits. SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st585>





## Ficus benjamina (figus)

This is a huge tree growing to 60 feet tall and 60 to 70 feet wide. The dense, rounded canopy and gracefully drooping branches of Weeping Fig made it quite popular as a landscape tree until recently. The thick, shiny, two to five-inch-long, evergreen leaves generously clothe the long branches, and the tiny figs eventually turn a deep red. Branches will weep toward the ground forming a canopy so dense that nothing grows beneath it.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st251>





## **Ficus elastica (rubber tree plant or ficus)**

Often seen as an interior container plant, Rubber Tree has large, 5 to 12-inch-long, thick, glossy evergreen leaves, multiple trunks, and a spreading, irregular canopy. Able to reach 100 feet in height in its native habitat in the jungle but most often seen at about 25 to 40 feet in the landscape, Rubber Tree is useful as a screen, shade, patio, or specimen tree. Its coarse texture makes a strong statement in the landscape. Use as a street tree is limited by the tree's tendency to break apart in strong winds. Perhaps the tree could be made stronger by removing branches with weak tight-angle crotches and spacing major lateral branches along one central trunk. Eliminate multiple trunks early in the life of the tree and prune lateral branches so they remain smaller than half the diameter of the trunk to increase longevity in the landscape.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st252>





## Ficus aurea (ficus, strangler fig)

Often starting out as an epiphyte nestled in the limbs of another tree, the native Strangler Fig is vine-like while young, later strangling its host with heavy aerial roots and eventually becoming a self-supporting, independent tree. Not recommended for small landscapes, Strangler Fig grows quickly and can reach 60 feet in height with an almost equal spread. The broad, spreading, lower limbs are festooned with secondary roots which create many slim but rigid trunks once they reach the ground and take hold. They become a maintenance headache as these roots need to be removed to keep a neat-looking landscape. The shiny, thick, dark green leaves create dense shade and the surface roots add to the problem of maintaining a lawn beneath this massive tree. The fruit drops and makes a mess beneath the tree.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st250>





# Araucaria heterophylla (Norfolk Island pine)

This large evergreen has a single upright trunk, tiered branching habit, and a narrow pyramidal or columnar shape. Eventually reaching a height of about 80 feet, the tree possesses a rapid growth rate. The tree would grow taller, but lightning frequently limits height growth in the eastern United States. The dark green, 1/2-inch-long, individual leaves on young trees are lanceolate and look somewhat like spruce or fir needles at first glance. Mature leaves are somewhat contorted on twisted branches. Both leaf types appear on the tree at the same time. The trunk is often curved and swollen at the base and black. The large, spiny, 10- to 15-pound cones are rare in cultivation.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st083>



# Euphorbia tirucalli (pencil tree)

The Pencil Cactus is also called the Milk Bush or *Euphorbia tirucalli* L.. The Pencil Cactus is a succulent, branching plant that can grow up to fifteen feet tall. The sap is white in color and is extremely toxic and irritating to the skin. It was even noted as being used as a fish poison in India.

SOURCE:

<http://charlottecountyextension.blogspot.com/2015/03/toxic-plants-aplenty.html>





# **Bauhinia purpurea (orchid tree; Butterfly Tree; Mountain Ebony)**

This fast-growing orchid-tree will ultimately reach 35 feet in height and width, the slender trunks topped with arching branches clothed in large, two-lobed, deciduous leaves. In fall, before the leaves drop, orchid-tree is festooned with many showy and delightfully fragrant, 5-inch-wide blossoms, the narrow purple, pink, and lavender petals arranged to closely resemble an orchid. These flowers appear on the trees from September through November and are a beautiful sight to see, creating a vivid splash of color in the autumn landscape. The flowers are followed by 12-inch-long, slender, brown, flat seedpods which usually persist on the tree throughout the winter, then fall to create a mess to clean up. The spectacular flower display makes orchid-tree a favorite for specimen plantings.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st090>





# **Bauhinia variegata (orchid tree; Mountain Ebony; Buddhist Bauhinia)**

This deciduous to semievergreen tree has a vase-shaped, open canopy with lower branches removed made up of large, bilobed, light green, papery leaves. Unpruned trees form a rounded crown. The orchid-like blooms, in shades of purple, red, pink, white, or yellow, are three to four inches across and produced in abundance at various times of the year, depending upon species.

Orchid tree makes a spectacular specimen or shade tree or fits well into mixed shrubbery borders.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st091>



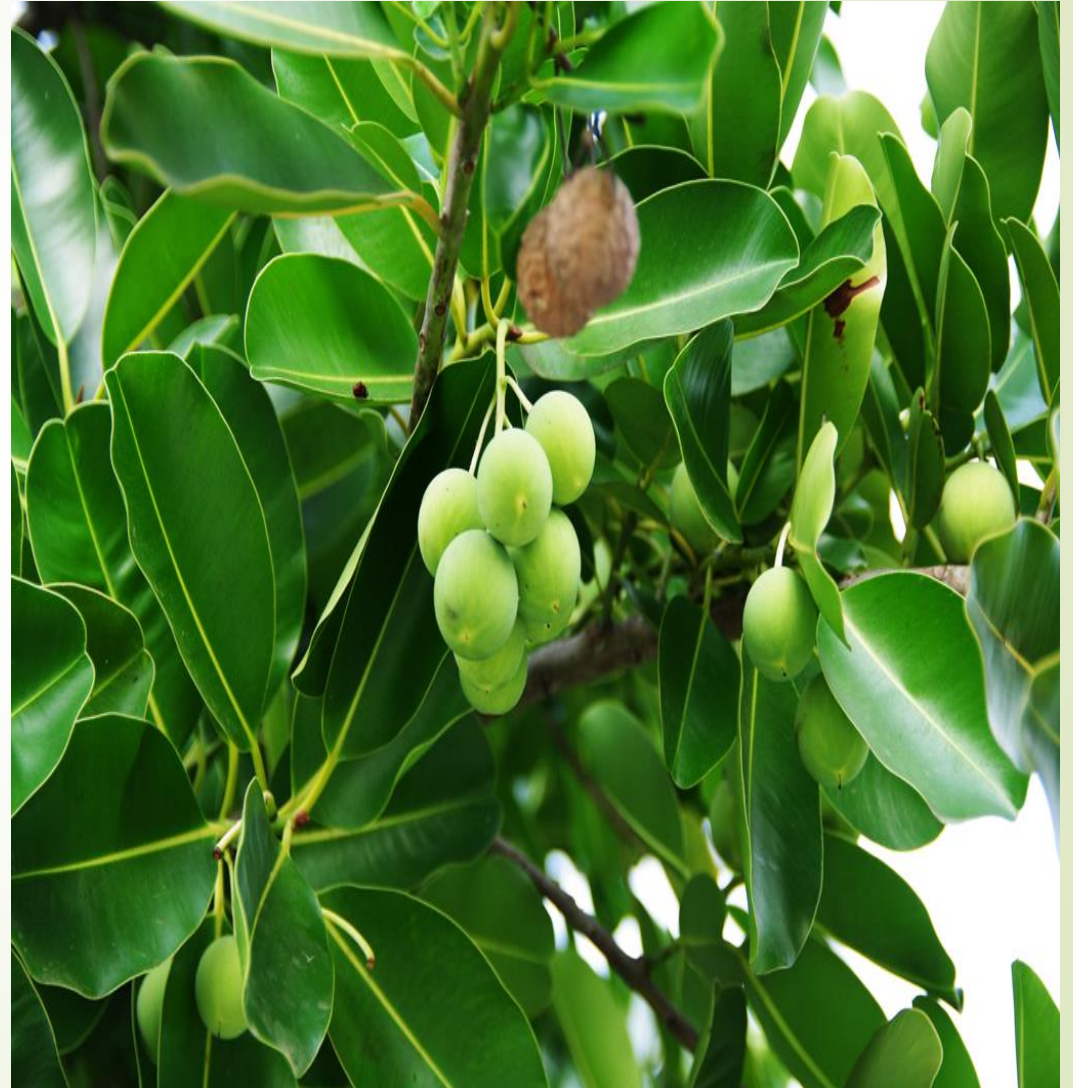


# **Calophyllum antillanum (=C inophyllum) (mast wood; Alexandrian Laurel; Indian Laurel; Kamani; Laurelwood; Beautyleaf)**

Invades mangrove forests and other coastal areas. Dense stands of seedlings and saplings also observed along fringes of buttonwood forests and occasionally in inland hardwood forests

This upright, pyramidal, densely foliated evergreen tree can reach 60 feet in height in the forest with a 30- to 40-foot spread, but is generally much smaller because it grows slowly. This is an asset in tropical landscapes, where many other plants grow so fast. Greenish, showy, .75-inch, very fragrant flowers are produced on eight-inch racemes in the summer. The round, yellow, 1.5-inch-wide fruit contains a single seed with a nutlike kernel that may be poisonous. The seven-inch-long, glossy, dark green, stiff, leathery leaves have numerous, distinct parallel veins at right angles to the midrib. The trunk has light grey, shallowly ridged bark, and the wood is valued for boat building and cabinet work.

Source: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st115>





# Catharanthus roseus (Madagascar periwinkle, Rose Periwinkle; Old Maid; Cape Periwinkle)

Also known as *Vinca rosea*, *Vinca multiflora*, periwinkle grows 7- to 24-inches-high and wide, forming a mound of colorful flowers in white, pink, or rosy-purple on brittle stems (Fig. 1). Cultivars are available with carpet-like or upright habits. Flowering is prolific throughout the warm months, although plants may establish poorly in very hot weather. The plant tolerates heat and flowers in the hottest weather, probably better than most other flowering ground covers. Spaced 12- to 20-inches-apart, plants will form a solid mass of mounded foliage and flowers 6- to 8-weeks after sowing seed, provided they are fertilized, watered lightly (or not at all), and planted in full sun.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp112>





# **Epipremnum pinnatum (pothos; Taro Vine; Devil's Ivy; Hunter's Robe; Golden Ceylon Creeper; Ivy Arum)**

The green and yellow heart-shaped leaves of Golden Pothos are easily recognized from its use as hanging baskets indoors, but this plant makes a suitable groundcover or climbing vine in frost-free climates (Fig. 1). Growing quickly up the trunks of pine, palm, oak, or other coarse-barked trees, the normally small leaves change to a mature form averaging 18 inches in length, lending a tropical effect to the landscape. The leaves sometimes become so large that they may cause the vine to lose its tendrill-hold on the trunk, especially after heavy rain storms. When not allowed to climb, Golden Pothos rapidly covers the ground with a dense cover of its variegated foliage.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp194>



*Epipremnum pinnatum*  
Photo copyright David Paul



# Eugenia uniflora (Surinam Cherry; Brazil Cherry; Cayenne Cherry)

Eugenia uniflora is occasionally found growing in disturbed hammocks in the central and southern peninsula of Florida. It is native to South America but escaped from cultivation. Surinam cherry blooms all year (Wunderlin, 2003).

**Appearance:** Evergreen, multibranched shrub or small tree to 10 m (30 ft) tall, usually shrub size in Florida; young stems often with red hairs and dark red new foliage.

**Leaves:** Opposite, simple, short petioled, oval to lance shaped, 2.5 – 8 cm (1–3 in) long, shiny dark green above, paler below; margins entire.

**Flowers:** White, fragrant, about 13 mm (0.5 in) across, with many stamens; occurring solitary or in clusters of 2 or 3 at leaf axils.

**Fruit:** A fleshy, juicy, orange-red berry to 4 cm (1.5 in) wide, depressed-globose, conspicuously 8-ribbed, with 1-3 seeds.

Source: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/eugenia-uniflora/>



©Onalee's Seeds, LLC



# **Kalanchoe pinnata(life plant; Air Plant; Floppers; Love Plant; Curtain Plant; Mother-in-law; Good Luck Leaf; Miracle Leaf; Sprouting Leaf; Live-Forever; Cathedral Bells)**

Life plant, Live leaf Treatment: Foliar: 5% Roundup. Manual: hand pull. Roundup is an effective treatment because it kills individual leaves that otherwise may produce new plants along leaf margins. Follow-up hand removal of leaves is necessary to prevent leaves from producing new plants. Comments: Often found along edges of natural areas, generally as a result of discarded landscape material.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/pdf/files/WG/WG20900.pdf>





# **Murraya paniculata (orange jessamine; Chalcas; Satinwood; Chinese Box; Cosmetic Bark Tree; Marilla)**

Orange Jasmine makes a fine-textured, medium-sized shrub, with an upright and spreading, compact habit and dense crown of glossy green leaves. The small, orange-blossom scented, white flowers and small, red berries appear throughout much of the year. It is difficult to walk within 10 feet of this plant in flower and not notice the fragrance. The berries are attractive to birds and the flowers attractive to bees. The shrub is well-suited to shearing into a formal hedge or screen and can take on a boxwood-like effect in a formal garden. Plant three to four feet apart for a hedge. However, rapid growth rate while plants are young assures that numerous shearings will be needed throughout the growing season. Growth slows with age.

SOURCE: <http://hort.ifas.ufl.edu/shrubs/MURPANA.PDF>

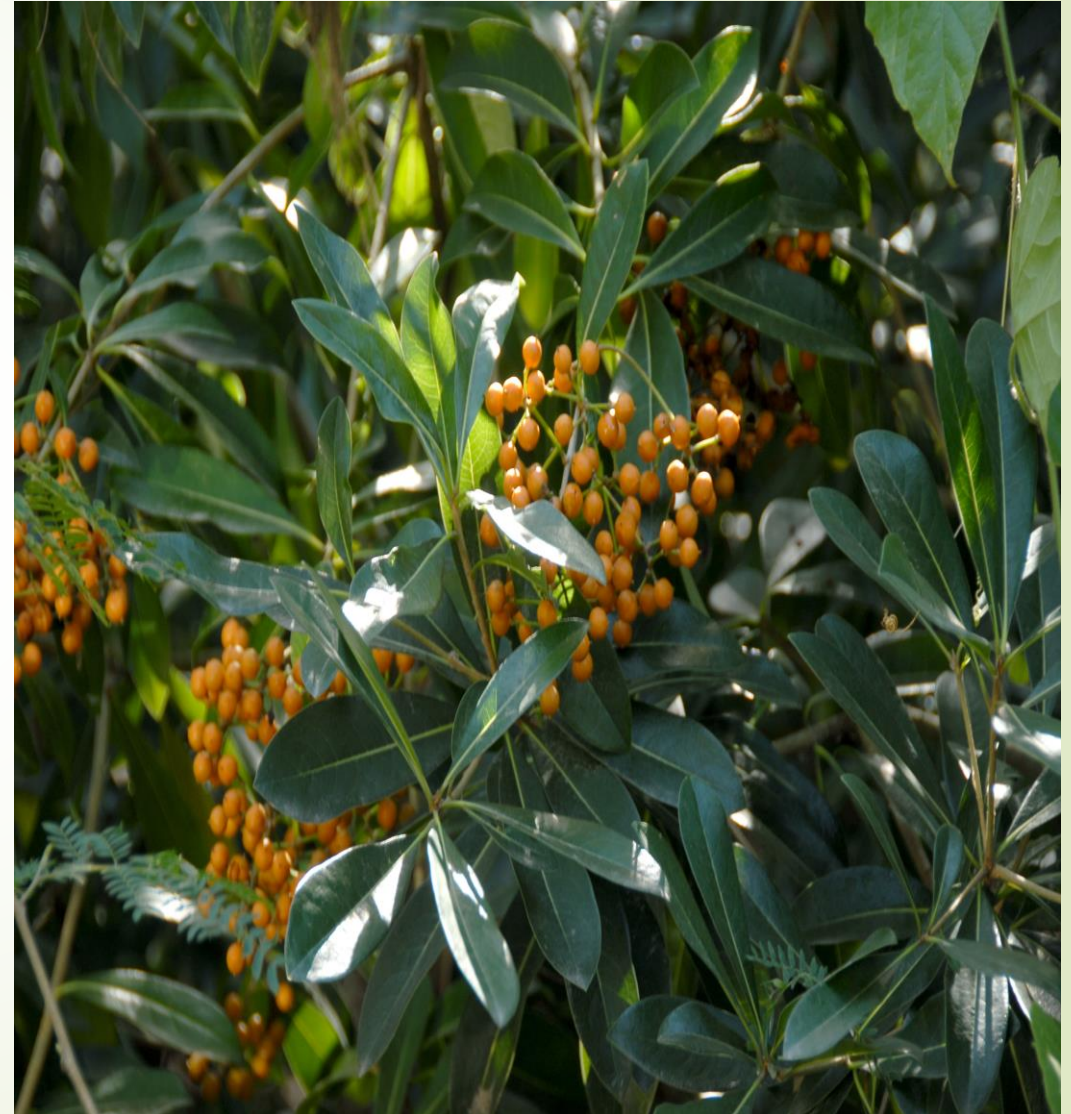




## Pittosporum pentandrum

Glossy, dark green leaves, easy care, and a natural mounding shape make pittosporum a popular landscape shrub (Fig. 1). However, rapid growth when young makes this a fairly high maintenance shrub, requiring frequent pruning, but growth does slow with age. Clusters of creamy white flowers with a fragrance similar to orange blossoms appear in spring, but they are rarely seen on shrubs because they are frequently pruned off with the regular trimming required to keep the plant in check. It is really better suited as a small tree with lower branches removed to reveal the multi-stemmed trunk, and branches should be left unpruned to allow the flowers to show in the spring. Prune after the flower display. Careful training and pruning can create an ornamental small tree form.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp483>





# **Pongamia pinnata (= Derris indica) (Ponga; Karum Tree, Poonga Oil Tree, Tallow Tree)**

Pongam is a fast-growing evergreen tree which reaches 40 feet in height and spread, forming a broad, spreading canopy casting moderate shade (Fig. 1). The three-inch-long, pinnately compound, glossy green leaves are briefly deciduous, dropping for just a short period of time in early spring but being quickly replaced by new growth. In spring, Pongam is at its finest when the showy, hanging clusters of white, pink, or lavender, pea-like, fragrant blossoms appear, the clusters up to 10 inches long. These beautiful blossoms and the glossy, nearly-evergreen leaves help make Pongam a favorite for use as a specimen, shade, or windbreak. It has also been planted as a street tree, but dropping pods often litter the ground. However, the seeds which are contained within the oval, 1.5- inch-long, brown seedpods are poisonous, a fact which should be considered in placing the tree in the landscape, if many children are present

MORE INFORMATION:

[http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/Hort/GardenPubsAZ/Millettia\\_pinnata.pdf](http://lee.ifas.ufl.edu/Hort/GardenPubsAZ/Millettia_pinnata.pdf)



# Pouteria campechiana (canistel; Eggfruit; Ti-Es, Sapote Borracho, Sapote Amarillo)

## Description

Medium sized tree in Florida but capable of being a large tree to 50+ ft with an upright growth habit. The evergreen leaves are whorled at the ends of branches, obovate-elliptic, 2 to 10 inches long, tapering toward the ends. The bisexual flowers are borne in the leaf axils, singly or in clusters. Flowers are cream colored, have 5 sepals and 5 or 6 lobed petals (bell-shaped flowers), 5 stamens, and a single ovary. Fruit shape ranges from spindle-shaped to round to obovate; commonly with a pointed apex. Fruit range in size from 3 to 5 inches (8–13 cm) long and 2 to 3 inches (5–8 cm) in diameter. The peel is thin, waxy, smooth, green when immature and bright yellow to bright orange when ripe. The pulp is relatively firm, smooth, creamy, sweet, and also bright yellow to orange when ripe; the pulp of incompletely ripe fruit is dry and mealy. The pulp of ripe fruit may be dry to moist and mealy to smooth in texture. The fruit have 1 to 5 glossy brown seeds. Canistel flowers are pollinated by insects. There are a number of canistel varieties available in Florida. Most are of good quality, but fruit vary in size and shape.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/hs299>





# **Rhoeo spathacea (oyster plant; Boat Lily; Moses in the Cradle; Man in a Boat)**

Oyster plant is a short-stemmed, tender foliage plant that makes attractive, small, dense, spreading clumps (Fig. 1). It forms a solid groundcover of upright leaves. The six- to eight-inch-long, sword-shaped leaves are green above and purplish below. The unusual flowers, borne down among the leaves, appear as clusters of tiny white flowers nestled within two boat-shaped, purplish bracts. They are not noticeable unless you look closely.

Source: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fp510>





# Sansevieria hyacinthioides (=S. trifasciata) (Bowstring Hemp; Snake Plant; Mother-in-law's Tongue)

- Bowstring hemp, Mother-in-law's tongue

## Treatment:

Cut surface, basal stem: 10% Garlon 4 in oil. Addition of 3% Stalker may increase consistency where nontarget vegetation will not be endangered. In sandy soils where a greater potential exists for nontarget damage 15%-25% Roundup can be used but control is less consistent.

## Comments:

Plants often take six to twelve months to die and follow-up applications are necessary. Dense populations may require initial physical removal.

Source: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/wg209>





# **Syzygium cumini (jambolan; Java Plum, Jambool, Jambu)**

Forms dense canopies that shade out young native trees in wet pinelands, hammock, and well drained uplands.

Description: Evergreen tree to 25 m tall, young stems grayish white, lower bark coarse and discolored. Leaves opposite, simple, entire, elliptic to broadly oblong, smooth, glossy, somewhat leathery, 5-10 cm long, short pointed at tips, leaf midrib prominent, yellowish, lateral veins many, closely parallel, petioles to 3 cm long. Inflorescences in branched clusters at stem tips. Flowers white to pinkish, about 1 cm across, calyx cuplike, 4 petals fused into a cap, stamens many. Fruit an ovoid, 1-seeded berry to 2 cm long, dark purplish red, shiny, flesh white to lavender. Habitat: wet pinelands and higher areas in swamps and marshes Comments: Seeds dispersed by birds and mammals, including racoons and wild hogs. Found only where minimum temperatures are above 35°F.

SOURCE 1:

[https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/wpcontent/uploads/files/caip/reco\\_cards/syzcum.pdf](https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/wpcontent/uploads/files/caip/reco_cards/syzcum.pdf)

SOURCE 2: [http://fnai.org/Invasives/Syzygium\\_cumini\\_FNAI.pdf](http://fnai.org/Invasives/Syzygium_cumini_FNAI.pdf)



# Syzygium jambos (rose apple, Malabar Plum)

**Family:** Myrtaceae ; **Origin:** Guava is indigenous to the American tropics.

**Related species:** Cattley (Strawberry) guava (*P. cattleianum*), Costa Rican Guava (*P. freidlichiana*), Brazilian guava (*P. guineense*), feijoa (*Feijoa sellowiana*), jambolan (*Syzygium jambolanum*), Malay apple (*S. malaccense*), Java apple (wax jambu; *S. samarangense*), water apple (*S. aqueum*), rose apple (*S. jambos*), Surinam cherry (*Eugenia uniflora*), Grumichama (*E. brasiliensis*), pitomba (*E. luschnathiana*), and jaboticaba (*Myciaria cauliflora*). Some of these species may be listed as invasive.

**Distribution:** Guava has become naturalized in tropical and subtropical regions throughout the world. In the US guava is grown commercially in Hawaii, Puerto Rico, and Florida.

**Invasive status:** Guava has been assessed by the UF/IFAS Invasive Plants Working Group as invasive and not recommended by UF/IFAS for planting in south Florida; guava may be planted in central Florida but should be managed to prevent escape.

For more information see <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/assessment.html>.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/mg045>





# **Terminalia catappa (tropical almond; Kamani; Myrobalan; India Almond)**

Tropical-Almond is a 30 to 55-foot-tall, deciduous tree which forms a symmetrical, upright silhouette in youth with horizontal branches reaching 35 feet in width. The branches are arranged in obvious tiers, giving the tree a pagoda-like shape. As the tree grows older, the crown spreads and flattens on the top to form a wide-spreading vase shape. The large, 12-inch-long and six-inch-wide, glossy green, leathery leaves change to beautiful shades of red, yellow, and purple before dropping in winter. Due to their large size, these old leaves may be considered a nuisance to some people. The leaves are quickly replaced by new growth so the tree is bare for only a short period of time. The inconspicuous, greenish-white, springtime blossoms appear in six-inch-long terminal clusters and are followed by the edible fruits. These drupes are 2.5 inches long and mature from green to yellow or red during the summer. The outside husk is corky fiber with an inner thin green flesh. The inside holds the edible, almond-like kernel. The fruit is high in tannic acid and this could stain cars, pavement and sidewalks. It also causes significant litter on the ground.





# Washingtonia robusta (Washington Palm, Mexican Fan Palm)

The Mexican fan palm is a fast-growing species that can reach heights of 70 to 100 feet, making it too tall for typical residential landscapes. It is native to northern Mexico but grows well in Florida, being hardy down to about 20°F or [USDA hardiness zone 9A](#). This species readily hybridizes with the closely related California fan palm (*Washingtonia filifera*), a shorter, stockier species that is poorly adapted to Florida's climate. Mexican fan palms grow well in a wide range of soils in Florida, but do require good drainage. Though considered a desert palm, it is native to areas having permanent surface or subsurface water and thus is not as drought tolerant as might be expected.

Mexican fan palm leaves are fan-shaped, about 3 to 5 feet wide, and have sharply toothed petioles about 4 to 6 feet long. Leaf bases are split and reddish-brown in color. Healthy specimens will have full, rounded canopies with at least 30 leaves, but potassium (K) deficiency typically reduces the number of leaves to half or less of that number. They can produce up to 50 leaves per year. In Florida, young Mexican fan palms will retain their old leaves (or old leaf bases if the leaves have been cut off) for a number of years, resulting in a skirt of old dried leaves hanging around the trunk. Once the palms reach about 30 feet in height they typically drop their old leaves or leaf bases within a period of a year or two. Once that occurs these palms essentially become “self-cleaning” and do not require manual removal of old leaves. Trunks of this species are reddish-brown in color, but weather to a light gray over time. They taper from nearly 2 feet in diameter at the base to as little as 8 inches near the top of older specimens. Although palms generally survive hurricanes better than broadleaf trees, Mexican fan palms are more prone to snapping or uprooting during severe storms than other palm species.

SOURCE <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st670>





# Wedelia trilobata (Wedelia)

Wedelia is a common weed problem in many parts of Florida.

Introduced from tropical America, wedelia has been used in the landscape as a groundcover. People like wedelia because of its beautiful flowers and its fast growth habit. Quick to form a thick groundcover, wedelia is a Category II invasive in Florida. It is also considered a serious weed in agricultural settings in other countries.

SOURCE: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/sphagneticola-trilobata/>



## *Abrus precatorius* (Rosary pea)

Rosary pea has been widely used in Florida as an ornamental plant for many years. The native range of rosary pea is India and parts of Asia, where this plant is used for various purposes. The roots of this plant are used to induce abortion and relieve abdominal discomfort. The seeds of this plant are so uniform in size and weight that they are used as standards in weight measurement. The seeds can also be used to make jewelry. **Interestingly, one of the most deadly plant toxins, abrin, is produced by rosary pea (*Abrus precatorius*). Studies have shown that as little as 0.00015% of toxin per body weight will cause fatality in humans (a single seed).** Interestingly, birds appear to be unaffected by the deadly toxin as they have been shown to readily disperse rosary pea seed.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/abrus-precatorius/>





## *Acacia auriculiformis* (Earleaf acacia)

**Appearance:** Evergreen, unarmed tree to 15 m (50 ft) tall, with compact spread, often multi-stemmed; young growth glaucous.

**Leaves:** Alternate, simple, reduced to flattened blade-like phyllodes slightly curved, 11–20 cm (5–8 in) long, with 3–7 main parallel veins and a marginal gland near the base; surfaces dark green.

**Flowers:** Loose, yellow-orange spikes at leaf axils or in clusters of spikes at stem tips; flowers mimosa-like, with numerous free stamens.

**Fruit:** Flat, oblong pod, twisted at maturity, splitting to reveal flat black seeds attached by orange, string-like arils.

**Ecological threat:** Has invaded pinelands, scrub, and hammocks in south Florida. Displaces native vegetation, and threatens to shade out rare plants. FLEPPC Category I

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/acacia-auriculiformis/>





## *Adenanthera pavonina* (Red beadtrees, red sandalwood)

*Adenanthera pavonina*, the Red Sandalwood or Coral Tree is cultivated for forage, as an ornamental garden plant or urban tree. It is a non-climbing species of leguminous tree useful for nitrogen fixation. It has many uses including food and drink, traditional medicine, timber, an ornamental garden plant/urban tree and as a shade tree. It has an attractive, spreading canopy. It flowers early spring to late summer fruiting in mid summer to autumn.

SOURCE:

<http://www.pfaf.org/User/Plant.aspx?LatinName=Adenanthera+pavonina>





# *Albizia lebbbeck* (Woman's tongue, lebbbeck tree, siris tree)

*Albizia lebbbeck*, *Mimosa lebbbeck* is a fast-growing tree, that is susceptible to wind damage. A moderate to large, deciduous tree can grow up to 100 feet high in rain forests. The tree develops a straight trunk when it is grown in dense forests, but is spreading and low branching in the open. Unless trimmed frequently, the trees will annually produce an abundance of seed from papery pods about 8" long and 1" wide (author). Common names such as "woman's tongue" and "rattle pod" derive from the noise of pods shaking in the wind. The foliage is pale green when young and gray-green at maturity. Flowers are cream colored, hemispheric pom-poms. Seeds germinate well without scarification.

The tree is used as a folk remedy for many ailments. Another common use is as an avenue tree, and sometimes it is used to shade coffee and tea. Saponins and tannins in the bark can be used for making soap and in tanning, respectively. Bee keepers like the species for the light-colored honey its nectar provides, and the tree hosts the lac insect.

Source: [https://toptropicals.com/catalog/uid/albizia\\_lebbbeck.htm](https://toptropicals.com/catalog/uid/albizia_lebbbeck.htm)





## *Antigonon leptopus* (Coral vine, queen's jewels)

### Plant Description

Lacy sprays of bright pink flowers with deeper pink centers adorn this rapid climber. Good cover for arbors and fences. An integral vine for southern gardens, this vine thrives on hot walls, and is highly drought tolerant, once established. Can be evergreen in warmest regions.

Source: <http://www.monrovia.com/plant-catalog/plants/97/coral-vine/>





## *Ardisia crenata* (Scratchthroat, coral ardisia)

Coral ardisia is an evergreen shrub that was introduced to Florida in 1982 as an ornamental. It has been commonly used as decoration during the Christmas holiday season (MacDonald et al. 2008). Coral ardisia is a member of the Myrsinaceae family and native to Japan and Northern India (MacDonald et al. 2008, Langeland et al. 2008, Wunderlin and Hansen 2008). *Ardisia crenata* is currently on the Category I list of invasive species because it can disrupt natural communities, especially hardwood hammocks which it has naturalized in (MacDonald et al. 2008). Because of the plants' potential to grow, it can disrupt understory plant growth by reducing the amount of sunlight beneath it (MacDonald et al. 2008). In addition, seeds are numerous and are able to remain on the plant year-round, a trait which allows them to easily out-compete many other seeds when dispersed by wildlife in off seasons. Seeds are reproduced heavily two years after a fire and can withstand many soil types (acidic or alkaline) and high temperatures exceeding 25C (MacDonald et al. 2008).

Source: <https://botany.biology.ufl.edu/2013/11/18/321/>





## *Ardisia elliptica* (Shoebutton, shoebutton ardisia)

### Appearance

Evergreen, glabrous shrub or small tree to 5 m (17 ft) tall, with smooth stems and new foliage often reddish.

### Leaves

Alternate, to 20 cm (8 in) long, oblong to oval, fleshy, leathery, gland-dotted below, with margins entire.

### Flowers

Axillary clusters, star shaped, 13 mm (0.5 in) wide, with mauve-colored petals.

### Fruit

Rounded drupe, 6 mm (< 1 in) wide, red turning to black when ripe, with white juicy flesh.

### Ecological threat

Abundant in hammocks, old fields, disturbed wetlands, and tree islands in marshes, forming dense single-species stands in forest understories and crowding out native plants. Also invading cypress and mangrove areas along the New River in Broward County.

Source: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/ardisia-elliptica/>





## *Bischofia javanica* (Javanese bishopwood, bishopwood, bischofia, toog)

Description: Tree to 18 m. Leaves alternate, long stalked, trifoliate, toothed margins, bronze-toned, leaflets 15- 20 cm long. Flowers tiny, greenish-yellow, no petals, in clusters at leaf axils. Fruit a pea-sized berry, brown or reddish or black.

Habitat: Hammocks, disturbed sites, cypress swamps

Comments: Vouchered north to Pinellas Co, established in south. Female plants produce many bird-dispersed seeds.

Source: [http://fnai.org/Invasives/Bischofia\\_javanica\\_FNAI.pdf](http://fnai.org/Invasives/Bischofia_javanica_FNAI.pdf)





## *Casuarina spp.* (Australian pine, sheoak, beefwood)

This evergreen tree is native to Australia, the South Pacific Islands, and Southeast Asia, but it has successfully naturalized in all of Hawaii, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and in Florida south of Orlando. It has become established and grows vigorously on disturbed sites such as roadsides and filled wetlands, and is commonly seen along coastlines in Florida. Australian pine is salt tolerant and grows well in sandy soil. Thriving in bright, full sunlight, this tree can reach heights of up to 100 feet with a canopy spread of up to 40 feet. A magnifying glass is needed to see the 0.25-inch-long evergreen leaves that press against the 0.03-inch-diameter stems in a whorled or circular pattern. The bark is red-brown to gray and appears to be constantly peeling from the trunk. The inconspicuous male and female flowers occur on the same tree and bloom twice a year in Florida, first in April and then again in June. The small cone-like structures appear in June and December, producing hundreds of thousands of winged seeds that then disperse with the wind or are eaten by foraging animals that digest and then expel the seed at different locations.

Source: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fr366>





## *Cestrum diurnum* (Dayflowering jessamine, day blooming jasmine, day jessamine)

Unlike *cestrum nocturnum*, this one is most fragrant during the day: flowers have very strong chocolate scent, as good as fragrance of famous Portlandia. It is a glabrous branching shrub to 8ft tall with fragrant white five-petaled elongated flowers.

Source: [https://toptropicals.com/catalog/uid/Cestrum\\_diurnum.htm](https://toptropicals.com/catalog/uid/Cestrum_diurnum.htm)

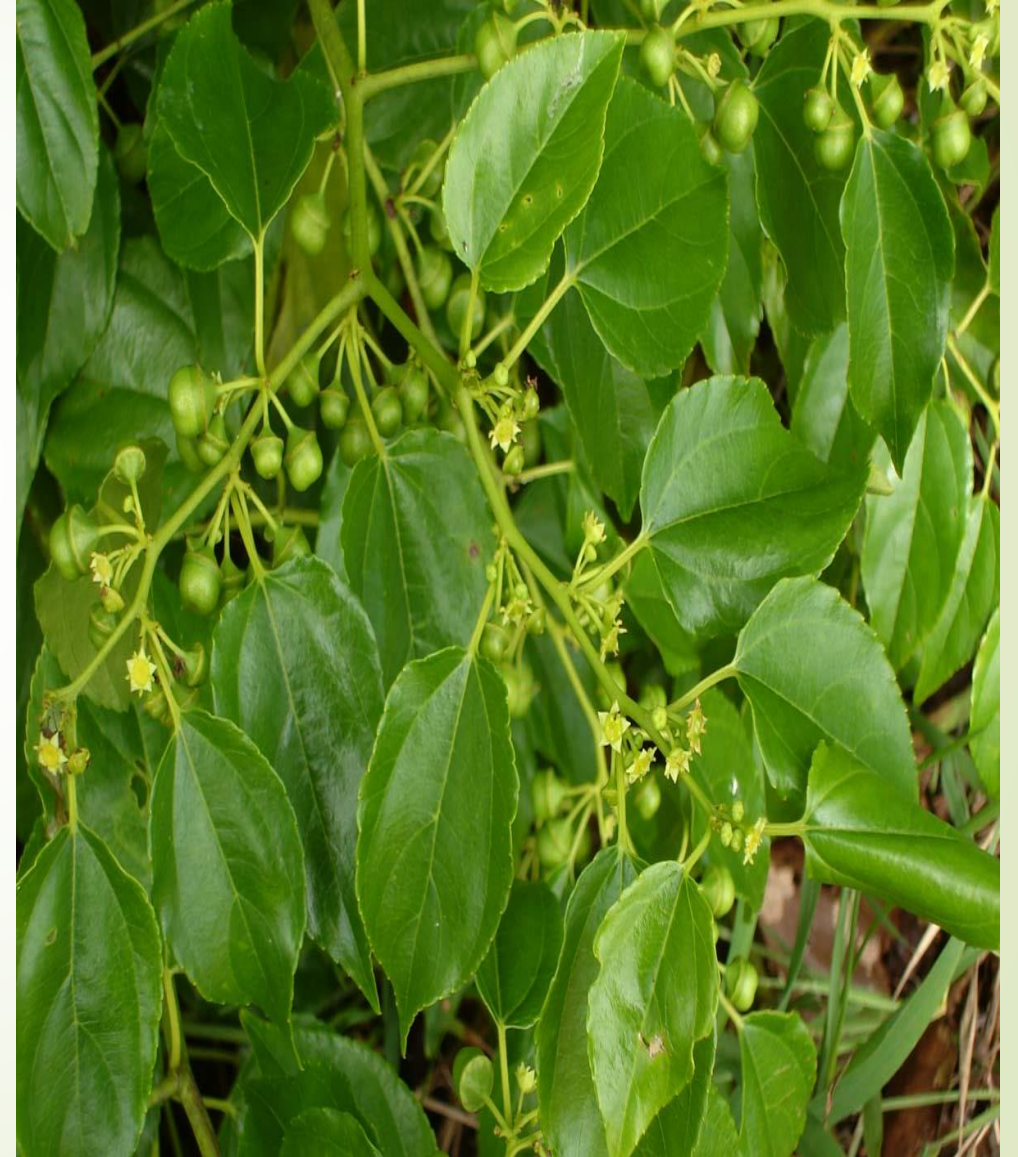


## *Colubrina asiatica* (Asian nakedwood, leatherleaf, latherleaf)

Scandent-scrambling, essentially glabrous shrub. The common name latherleaf denotes that *C. asiatica* leaves contain a useful saponin-like substance. Neal (1965) wrote that in Hawaii and elsewhere, the plant is used medicinally and its leaves have long been used for soap as they form a lather in water.

*C. asiatica asiatica* is an aggressive exotic invader of native coastal vegetation in South Florida, which has invaded The Nature Conservancy's Blowing Rocks Preserve and other natural areas. Its seeds are constantly being dispersed at a rapid rate by ocean currents. Other seed vectors may also exist. Plants grow rapidly in full sun; they can cover and even kill native flora. Current practices of herbicide and manual control of *C. asiatica* are very labor intensive and thus expensive. Research is needed on improving control methods of this noxious pest species.

Source: [https://wiki.bugwood.org/Colubrina\\_asiatica](https://wiki.bugwood.org/Colubrina_asiatica)





# *Cinnamomum camphora* (Camphortree, camphor tree)

A quick and easy method of identifying camphor is by crushing the leaves or peeling a twig or bark. This will release oils and the scent of camphor. Camphor is an evergreen tree with oval to elliptical leaves, arranged alternately on the stem. Slender twigs are initially green but change to reddish brown. Buds are sharply pointed, roughly 1/2 inch in length. Camphor tree bark is variable, from scaly to irregularly furrowed with flat topped ridges. The camphor tree habit ranges from small to medium (25 to 40 feet tall), but some specimens have attained over 100 feet. Leaf margins are entire, but can be wavy with a shiny, dark green color. Fragrant flowers are greenish white to pale yellow, borne on panicles about 3 inches long. The fruit is dark blue to black, fleshy and approximately 1 to 1.5 cm in diameter. These are produced in large quantities during the winter and spring months in central and north Florida.

<https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/cinnamomum-camphora/>





# *Cupaniopsis anacardioides* (Carrotwood)

## Appearance

Slender evergreen tree, usually single-trunked, to 10 m (33 ft) tall, with dark gray outer bark and often orange inner bark.

## Leaves

Alternate, once compound (usually even-pinnate), with petioles swollen at the base; 4–12 leaflets, stalked, oblong, leathery, shiny yellowish green, to 20 cm (8 in) long and 7.5 cm (3 in) wide; margins entire and tips rounded or slightly indented.

## Flowers

Numerous, white to greenish yellow, up to 0.8 cm (0.4 in) wide, in branched clusters to 35 cm (14 in) long at leaf axils; 5 petals; 6–8 stamens.

## Fruit

A short-stalked, woody capsule, to 2.2 cm (0.9 in) across, with 3 distinctly ridged segments; yellow orange when ripe, drying to brown and splitting open to expose 3 shiny oval black seeds covered by a yellow-red crust (aril).

## Ecological threat

Invades spoil islands, beach dunes, marshes, tropical hammocks, pinelands, mangrove and cypress swamps, scrub habitats, and coastal strands; greatly altering understory habitat.

Source: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/cupaniopsis-anacardioides/>





## *Dalbergia sissoo* (Indian rosewood, sissoo)

*Dalbergia sissoo* is an erect thornless soft green shade tree. It is fast growing to 40' and is deciduous. It is sometimes referred to as Arizona Rosewood or Indian Rosewood. It has primarily been found growing along river banks but it can range naturally up to 4000 ft. The temperature in its native range averages 50–104 °F). *Dalbergia sissoo* can withstand average annual rainfall up to 75 in. but tolerate droughts of 3–4 months. Soils range from pure sand and gravel to richer soil along river banks. *Dalbergia sissoo* can grow in slightly saline soils. Source:

<https://www.villagenurseries.com/product/httpswhl3-wpengine-comproductdalbergia-sissoo-arizona-rosewood-indian-rosewood-2/>





# *Dioscorea alata* (White yam, winged yam)

## Appearance

Vigorously twining herbaceous vine, from massive underground tuber.

## Leaves

Long petioled, opposite (often with only one leaf persistent); blades to 20 cm (8 in) or more in length, narrowly heart shaped, with basal lobes often angular.

## Flowers

Small, occasional, male and female arising from leaf axils on separate plants (i.e., a dioecious species); male flowers in panicles to 30 cm (1 ft) long; female flowers in smaller spikes.

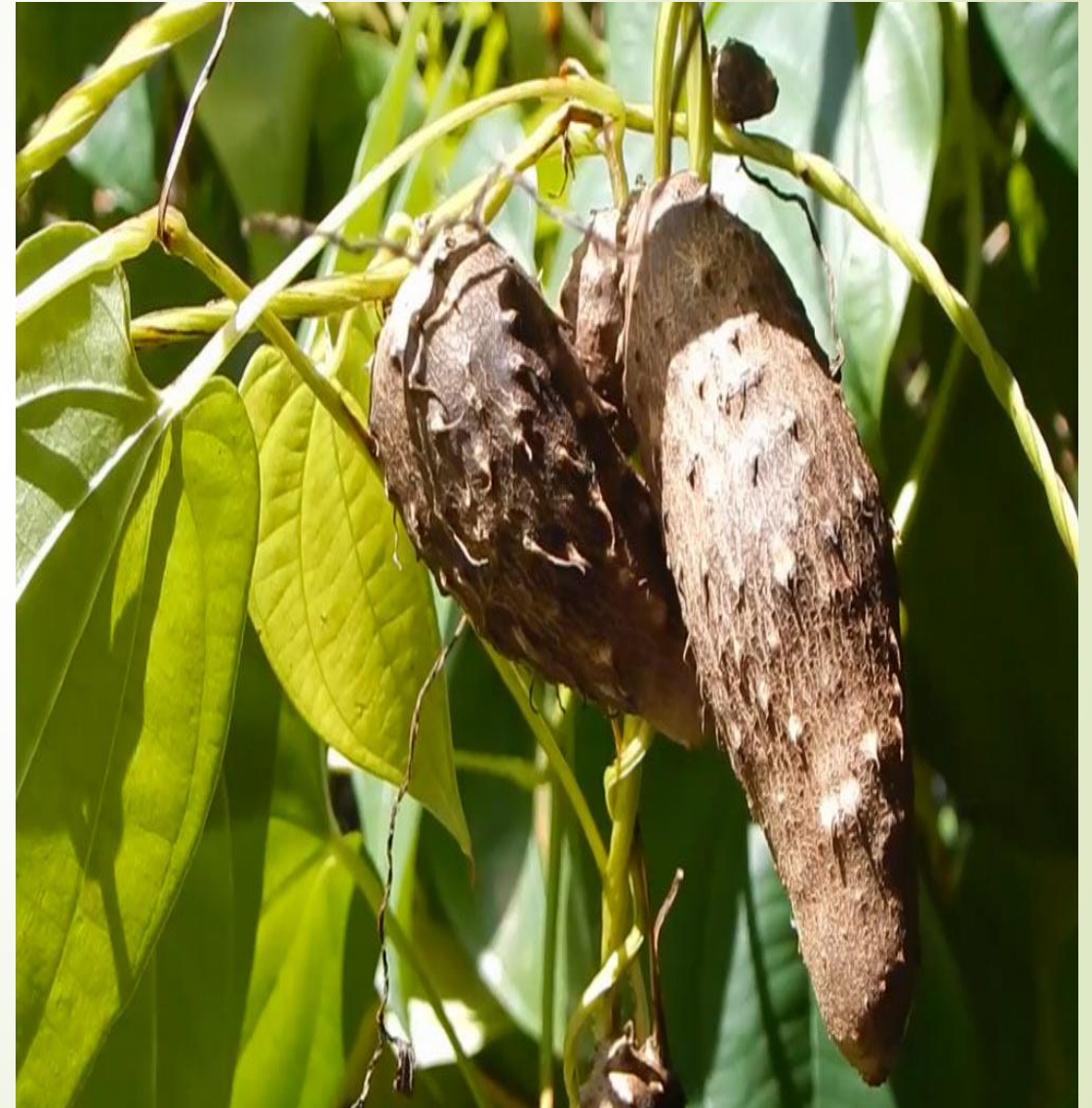
## Fruit

A 3-parted capsule; seeds winged.

## Ecological threat

Some stands forming blankets of shingled leaves over native vegetation and able to cover even mature trees.

Source: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/dioscorea-alata/>





# *Dioscorea bulbifera* (Air potato, bitter yam, potato vine)

A native to tropical Asia, air potato, *Dioscorea bulbifera*, was first introduced to the Americas from Africa. In 1905 it was introduced to Florida. Due to its ability to displace native species and disrupt natural processes such as fire and water flow, air potato has been listed as one of Florida's most invasive plant species since 1993, and was placed on the Florida Noxious Weed List by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services in 1999.

SOURCE: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/dioscorea-bulbifera/>



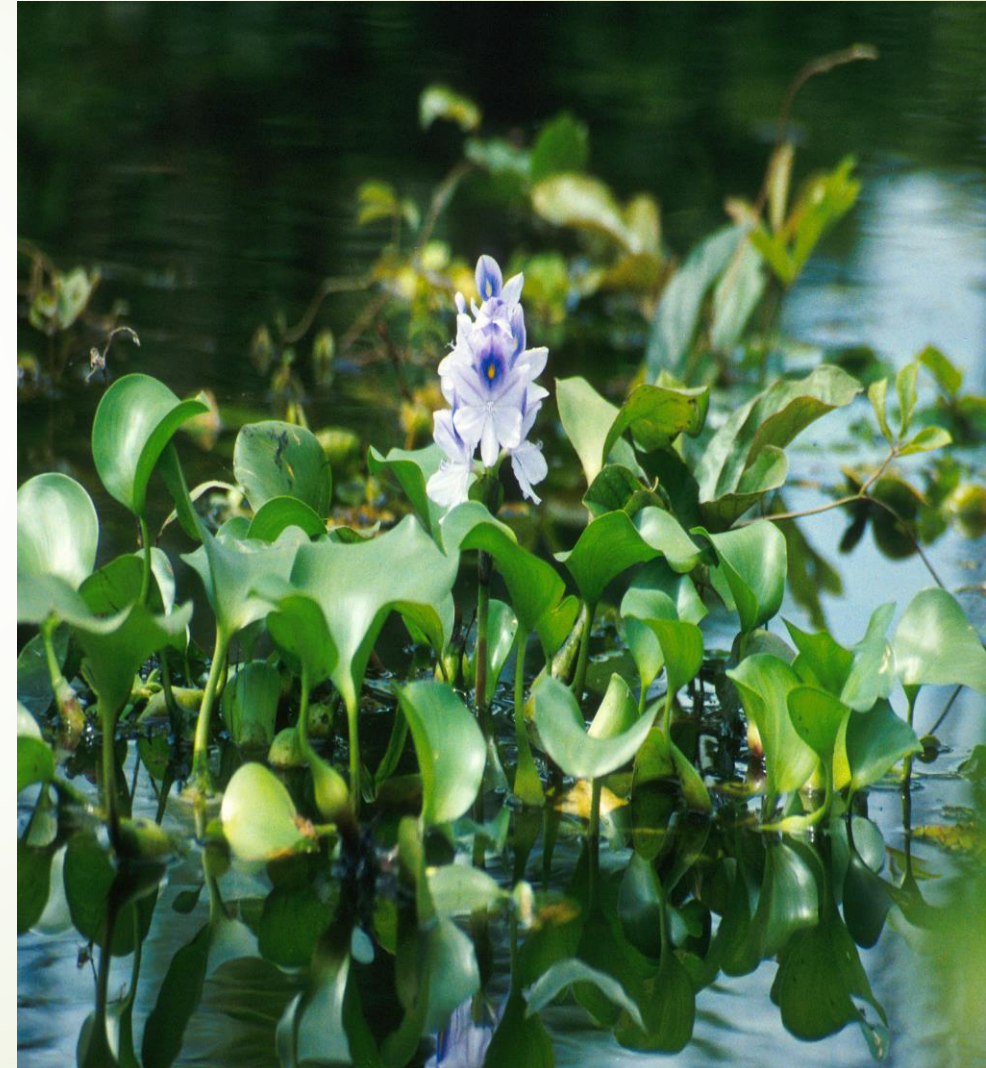
## *Eichhornia crassipes* (Common water-hyacinth, water-hyacinth)

The water hyacinth is a floating plant. This invasive nuisance is *planta non grata* in much of the world where it often jams rivers and lakes with uncounted thousands of tons of floating plant matter. A healthy acre of water hyacinths can weigh up to 200 tons! In the U.S., water hyacinth is present throughout the southeast, as well as in California and Washington state. In Florida, where for 100 years this weed had the upper-hand in water management, the water hyacinth in most places is under “maintenance control”: field crews constantly working to keep the plant numbers at their lowest possible levels, in exchange for the rivers and lakes remaining usable.

*Eichhornia crassipes* grows in all types of freshwaters. They vary in **size** from a few inches to over three feet tall. They have showy lavender **flowers**.

Their **leaves** are rounded and leathery, attached to spongy and sometimes inflated stalks. The plant has dark feathery **roots**. Water hyacinth may be confused with frog’s-bit, *Limnobium spongia*.

SOURCE: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/eichhornia-crassipes/>





## *Ficus altissima* (Council tree, lofty fig, banyan tree, false banyan)

*Ficus altissima* is a massive, evergreen tree with a large, spreading crown; it can grow 30 meters or taller. The bole can be 40 - 90cm in diameter, with low buttresses. The plant usually begins life as an epiphyte, growing in the branch of another tree; as it grows older it sends down aerial roots which, when they reach the ground quickly form roots and become much thicker and more vigorous. They supply nutrients to the fig, allowing it to grow faster than the host tree. The aerial roots gradually encircle the host tree, preventing its main trunk from expanding, whilst at the same time the foliage smothers the foliage of the host. Eventually the host dies, leaving the fig to carry on growing without competition. The tree is harvested from the wild for local use as a source of fibre and latex. It is planted as a pioneer species in reforestation projects in Thailand. A report on reforestation in northern Thailand by using specific pioneer species. It can be downloaded from the Internet.

SOURCE: <http://tropical.theferns.info/viewtropical.php?id=Ficus+altissima> ;

<http://www.fao.org>





# *Ficus benghalensis* (Banyan tree, banyan fig, Indian banyan, East Indian fig tree, Bengal fig)

A large, evergreen to deciduous, up to 20 (-25) m tall, with wide leafy crown and branches spreading up to 100 m or more with pillar-like prop roots and accessory trunks. Trunk massive, fluted, bark grey, smooth, young softly white puberulous. Leaves with stout, (1.5-) 2-6 (-8) cm long, do ventrally compressed hairy petiole; lamina coriaceous, ovate or orb ovate to elliptic, (8-) 10-20 (-25) cm long, (6-) 8-15 (20) cm broad, glabrous above, finely pubescent beneath, base subcordate or rounded, margins apically obtuse, lateral nerves 4-7 pairs, intercostals distinct,  $\pm$  bulging stipules coriaceous, stout, 1.5-2.5 cm long, acute; cystoliths abundant on side, few or absent below. Hypanthodia sessile, in axillary pairs on young depressed-globose, 15-2 cm in diameter, green, hairy, subtended by 3, reniform c. 3-4 mm long, c. 6-7 mm wide, minutely hairy basal bracts, apical orifice by 3, flat or  $\pm$  umbonate bracts, internal bristles absent. Male flowers: numerous ostiolar, shortly pedicellate; sepals 2-3; stamen solitary, with shortly mucronate anther. Female flowers: sessile, mixed with gall flowers; sepals 34, small; ovary with an elongated style. Gall flowers numerous, pedicellate; sepal as in female ovary with a short style. Figs globose to depressed-globose, 15-2.5 cm in diam pinkish-red, hairy.





# *Ficus microcarpa* (Indian laurel, laurel fig, Malay banyan, Chinese banyan, glossy leaf banyan)\*

## Appearance

Evergreen tree to 15 m (50 ft) or more in height, with a rounded dense crown; smooth gray bark, milky sap, and long, thin, dangling aerial roots.

## Leaves

Alternate, simple, leathery, deep glossy green; oval-elliptic to diamond-shaped, to 13 cm (5 in) long, with short pointed, ridged tips.

## Flowers

Tiny, unisexual, numerous, hidden within the “fig”; a fleshy, specialized receptacle that develops into a multiple fruit (syconium).

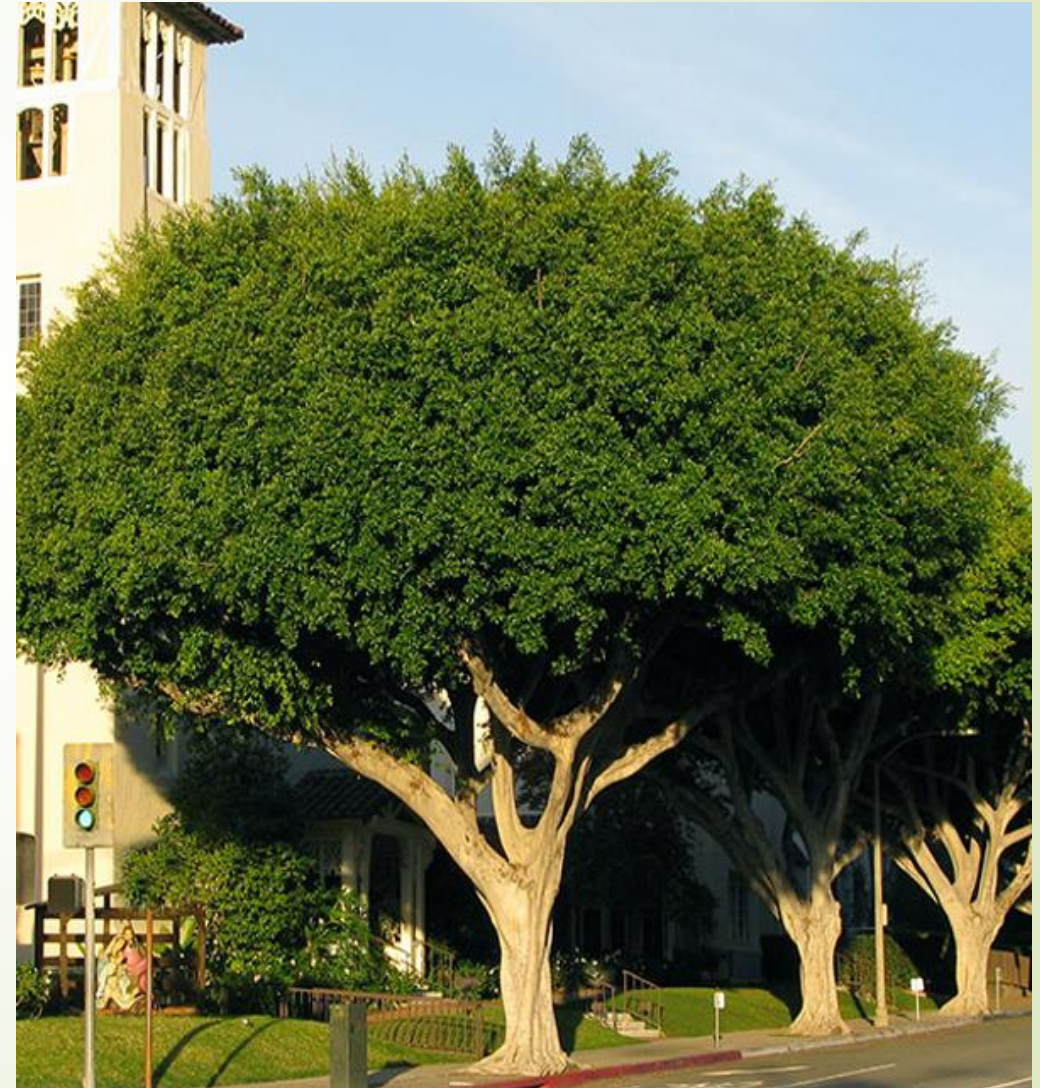
## Fruit

Green turning to yellow or dark red when ripe; sessile, in pairs at leaf axils; small, to 1 cm (0.5 in) in diameter.

## Ecological threat

Began spreading by seed in the 1970s, following apparently accidental introduction of species-specific pollinating wasps. Found in various tropical hammocks.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/ficus-microcarpa/>





## *Flacourtia indica* (Governor's plum, Madagascar plum, batoko plum, ramonchi)

*F. indica* is a species of small tree or shrub native to Africa and Asia. It has been introduced fairly widely and is regarded as a major invasive plant. It invades disturbed areas, forest edges or clearings and riparian zones. It has been most widely recorded as invasive in islands in the Western Indian Ocean to varying extents. *F. indica* is considered very invasive in Mauritius but less so on Reunion, Rodrigues and Mayotte where monitoring is recommended (Kueffer et al., 2004). Similarly, it has been recorded as an invasive species 'to be watched' in Florida (Hadden et al., 2005). While present and introduced in various Pacific and Caribbean islands, information on invasiveness in this area is scarce. It has however been reported that this species can form dense impenetrable thickets which may inhibit the growth of native plant species.

Source: <http://www.cabi.org/isc/datasheet/24211>





## *Hydrilla verticillata* (Water thyme, hydrilla)

**Rooted** in the hydro-soil, adventitious roots are white. The plant is submersed, except when branches have reached and grown across the water surface; sometimes found as detached floating mats.

**Appearance can vary substantially**, depending on growth conditions (Pieterse *et al.* 1985). **Stems** submersed, slender (about 1/32 in. thick) and sinewy, long (to 25 feet). **Profuse branching** occurs near the water surface.

**Leaves** small (5/8 in. long), strap-like, pointed tips, conspicuous midrib; arranged in whorls of 4 to 8, joined directly to the stem, whorl internodes 1/8 to 2 in. long. **Leaf margins** distinctly visible saw-toothed; often with one or more sharp teeth along the underside midrib. **Leaf color** green; clean leaves are translucent; topped out leaves, bleached by the sun and attacked by fungus and bacteria, may appear yellowish to brownish-green.

**Flowers** can be male and female. **Female flowers** solitary, tiny, white, floating on the surface; reaching to the surface on “long” (to 4 in.) threadlike stalks, stalks attached at leaf axils near the stem tips; at surface, flower opens to form a wide funnel into the water; petal rims hold flower to surface and prevent water from getting into flower; female petals 6, to 1/16 in. long; stamens 3, styles 3, stigmas 3. **Male flowers** tiny, greenish, closely attached to leaf axils toward stem tips, until they break loose and rise to the surface where they free-float, sometimes in large numbers, where they fertilize the female flowers by randomly bumping into them; male flowers at surface like “inverted bells.”

SOURCE: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/hydrilla-verticillata/>





## *Hygrophila polysperma* (Indian swampweed, green hygro)

East Indian hygrophila is mostly submersed, with a few inches sometimes emerged above the water. East Indian hygrophila is not a native plant. It may be found in streams and in slowly moving waters.

Hygrophila **stems** are square. The submersed stems grow to six feet long. Its **leaves** are opposite on the stem. Leaves are 1 1/2 inch long and 1/2 inch wide. East Indian hygrophila **flowers** are bluish-white to white, and have two lips. They grow from the axils where the leaves meet the stems.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/hygrophila-polysperma/>





# *Hymenachne amplexicaulis* (Trompetilla, West Indian marsh grass)

## Appearance

Robust perennial grass from stolons. Stems floating, creeping, or ascending to 1m (3 ft) or more in height; sparingly branched, rooting at the lower nodes; stems pithy, not hollow.

## Leaves

Sheaths glabrous but with hairs on upper margins; ligule a membrane. Leaf blades flat, to 35 cm (14 in) long and to 4 cm (1.6 in) wide; cordate at the base and clasping the stem (amplexicaul); glabrous but with long hairs on lower margins.

## Flowers

In a spike-like, densely flowered panicle, to 26 cm (10 in) long and ~1 cm (0.4 in) wide; spikelets short-stalked.

## Fruit

3–4 mm (0.12 – 0.16 in) long.

## Ecological threat

Displacing native maidencane communities; colonizing, and becoming difficult to control along drainage canals of south central Florida.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/hymenachne-amplexicaulis/>



Photo - Col Middleton  
© DPI & F



## *Imperata cylindrica* (Cogongrass)

Cogongrass is an aggressive, rhizomatous, perennial grass that is distributed throughout the tropical and subtropical regions of the world. It has become established in the southeastern United States within the last fifty years, with Alabama, Mississippi, and Florida having extensive acreage of roadway and pasture infested with cogongrass. Cogongrass first appeared in the area around Grand Bay, Alabama as an escape from Satsuma orange crate packing in 1912. It was intentionally introduced from the Philippines into Mississippi as a possible forage in 1921. Cogongrass was introduced into Florida in the 1930s and 1940s as a potential forage and for soil stabilization purposes.

However, it was revealed that cogongrass was of little economic (forage) benefit and could become a serious pest. Consequently, it was placed on the noxious weed list, which prohibits new plantings. Unfortunately, cogongrass was spread by illegal plantings and inadvertent transport in forage and in soil during roadway construction. It does not survive in cultivated areas but becomes established along roadways, in forests, parks, and mining areas. It is now found throughout Florida from the panhandle region well into south Florida.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/imperata-cylindrica/>





## *Ipomoea aquatica* (Water-spinach)

*Ipomoea aquatica* is rarely found in the shallow water in ponds, lakes, and rivers of Hillsborough, Pinellas, and Manatee counties of Florida. It is native to the East Indies but escaped cultivation (Wunderlin, 2003).

**Appearance:** Herbaceous trailing vine with milky sap. Stems hollow, rooting at nodes, floating in aquatic situations.

**Leaves:** Alternate, simple, with glabrous petioles 3–14 cm (1–6 in) long; blades generally arrowhead shaped but variable, glabrous or rarely pilose, to 17 cm (7 in) long, with tips pointed; blades held above water when stems floating.

**Flowers:** Showy, funnelform; like morning glory blooms; solitary or in few-flowered clusters at leaf axils; petals white or pink-lilac.

**Fruit:** An oval or spherical capsule, woody at maturity, about 1 cm (0.5 in) wide; holding 1–4 grayish seeds, these often short, hairy.

**Ecological threat:** Forms dense floating mats of intertwined stems over water surfaces, shading out native submersed plants and competing with native emergents.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/ipomoea-aquatica/>





# *Jasminum dichotomum* (Gold Coast jasmine)

## Appearance

Scrambling shrub or woody climber, ever-green, to 8 m tall, with climbing stems longer; stems glabrous.

## Leaves

Opposite, appearing simple (unifoliate), oval to roundish oblong; glossy, leathery, 5–7 cm (2–4 in) long, with short-pointed tips.

## Flowers

White (pink in bud); in clusters at leaf axils; petals fused into a narrow tube to 2.5 cm (1 in) long, with 5–9 terminal lobes about 1.3 cm (0.5 in) long, spreading in star-shaped fashion; quite fragrant, opening at night.

## Fruit

A small, fleshy, roundish, black, 2-lobed berry.

## Ecological threat

Vigorously invades intact, undisturbed hardwood forests; can climb high into the tree canopy of mature forests, completely enshrouding native vegetation and reducing native plant diversity.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/jasminum-dichotomum/>





# *Jasminum fluminense* (Brazilian jasmine, jazmin de trapo)

## Appearance

Evergreen, climbing, woody vine, with young stems densely hairy and mature stems glabrous.

## Leaves

Opposite, trifoliate; leaf and leaflets stalked; terminal leaflet larger, to 7 cm (4 in) long with a stalk to 5 cm (2 in) long; leaflets broadly ovate, pubescent above and below with pointed tips.

## Flowers

White; in broad, branched clusters at leaf axils; petals fused into a narrow, slightly curved tube to 2.5 cm (1 in) long, with 5–7 terminal lobes shorter than the tube, spreading in star-shaped fashion; quite fragrant, opening at night.

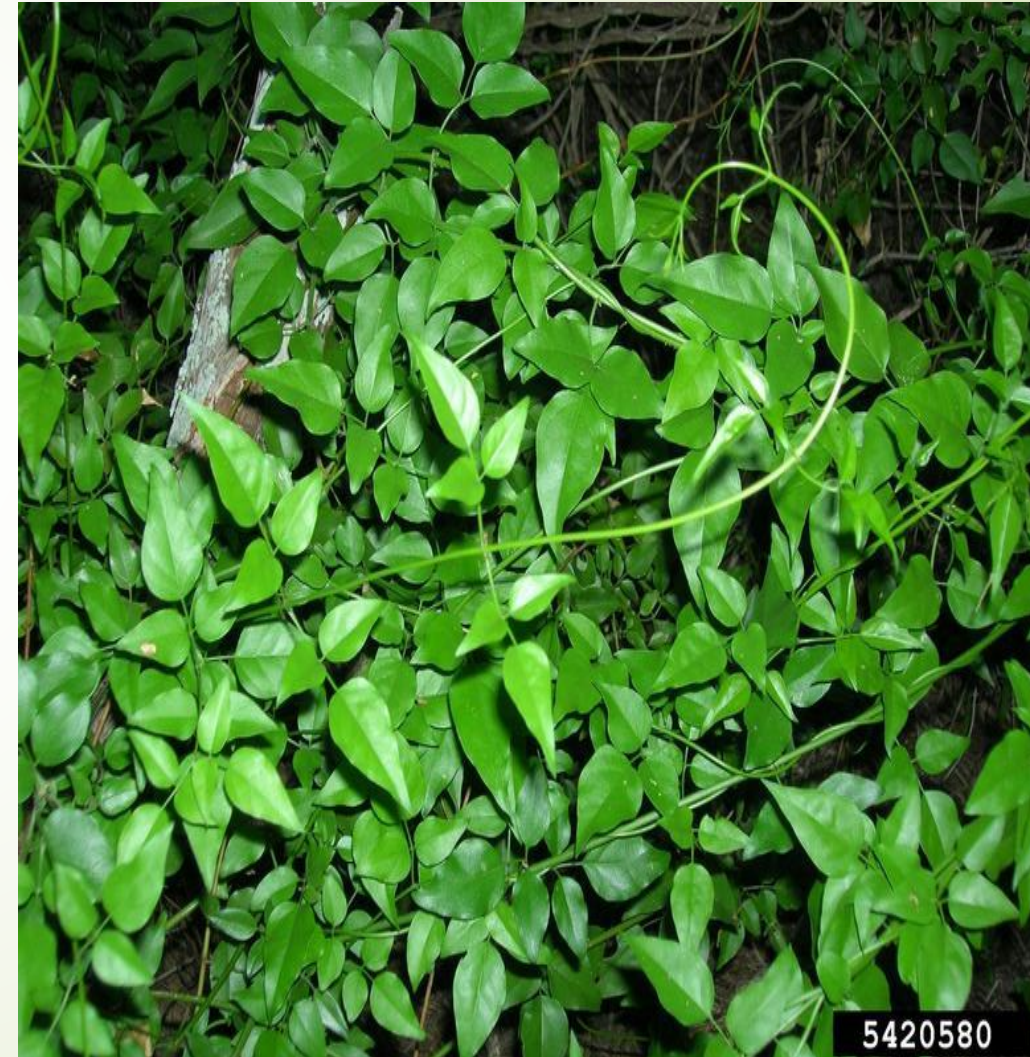
## Fruit

A small, fleshy, roundish, black, 2-lobed berry.

## Ecological threat

An aggressive, troublesome, difficult-to-control weed; can climb high into the tree canopy of mature forests, completely enshrouding native vegetation and reducing native plant diversity. Has vigorously invaded intact, undisturbed hardwood forests in south Florida.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/jasminum-fluminense/>





# *Leucaena leucocephala* (White leadtree, lead tree, jumbie bean, tan-tan)

Mexico and Central America is the native range of lead tree, or *Leucaena leucocephala*. Lead tree was most likely distributed by man because of its many uses. This multipurpose tree is used for fuel wood, lumber, animal fodder, and green manure. Ornamental uses include windbreaks, shade trees, and erosion control. Lead tree may have been introduced into Florida for cattle fodder and controlling erosion. Found in Southern Florida, including the Florida Keys, lead tree can be seen along roadsides and hammock margins in Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. Lead tree is a Category II invasive species.

SOURCE: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/leucaena-leucocephala/>





## *Ludwigia peruviana* (Peruvian primrosewillow)

*Ludwigia peruviana* is commonly found growing in swamps, lakes and pond margins nearly throughout Florida. They are native to tropical America and bloom all year (Wunderlin, 2003).

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/ludwigia-peruviana/>





## *Lygodium spp. except L. palmatum* (Climbing fern, e.g. Old World climbing fern, Japanese climbing fern)

*Lygodium japonicum*, or Japanese Climbing Fern (JCF), is an adventive species that was introduced into Florida as an ornamental plant in the 1930's. In Florida it is currently found in the north and western areas of the state, but is quickly spreading and has been found as far south as Broward and Collier counties. It is also found in the southern areas of Alabama, Mississippi, and Louisiana. Japanese climbing fern is able to engulf shrubbery and ground covers by forming a dense canopy of vegetation.

Old World Climbing Fern (*Lygodium microphyllum*), was found growing in south Florida in the 1960's. Since that time, this species covers nearly 50,000 acres today. It infests cypress swamps, engulfing tree islands with 90 foot long fronds. Due to the climate, this species does not die back in the winter, allowing for massive growth.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/lygodium-japonicum/>





## *Macfadyena unguis-cati* (Catclaw vine)

*Macfadyena unguis-cati* (now known as *Dolichandra unguis-cati*), or Cats claw vine, is a native from West Indies and Mexico to Argentina. In Florida populations have been documented in several counties, including Escambia, Alachua, Seminole, Brevard, Hillsborough, Hernando, and Dade counties. Cats claw vine gets its name from the 3-pronged claw-like climbing appendages that are used to grasp onto plants or surfaces. Cats claw vine is considered a Category I exotic invasive by Florida's Exotic Pest Plant Council.

SOURCE: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/dolichandra-unguis-cati/>





# *Melaleuca quinquenervia* (Punk tree, melaleuca, cajeput, paperbark tree, tea tree, swamp tea tree)

A small to medium-sized tree, commonly 8-12 m tall, but ranging over 4-25 m depending on local growing conditions. The stem is moderately straight to crooked, the crown is narrow and open, or fairly dense. The thick, pale-coloured bark is made up of many papery layers that split and peel, and on large trunks becomes rough and shaggy. The species is described in detail by Blake (1968), and more generally with illustrations by Boland et al. (1984), Holliday (1989) and Doran and Turnbull (1997). Young shoots are densely hairy and therefore silvery in appearance, with hairs 0.25-2 mm long, which are appressed on the leaves and ascending on the twigs (Blake, 1968). Mature leaves are alternate, dull green, stiff, leathery, lanceolate to oblanceolate, 4-9 cm by 2-3.5 cm, with entire margins, and 5 (rarely 3 or 7) prominent parallel veins from base to tip, on a petiole 6-24 mm long. The white or creamy-white (rarely greenish or reddish) flowers are produced in thick, fluffy spikes. The conspicuous part of each flower consists of five bundles of stamens 10-20 mm long. Spikes are solitary or 2-3 together, terminal, sometimes solitary in the uppermost 1-3 axils, and 4-8.5 cm by 2.5-3.5 cm in length. The spike grows out into a leafy twig beyond the fruits. Each inflorescence results in 30-70 densely packed woody, stalkless capsules. The capsules are short, cylindrical 3-4 mm by 4-5 mm, grey-brown, hard and persistent. The seeds are pale brown, very small, about 1 mm by 0.3 mm, tapering from the dorsal end. The seeds are shed through 3-4 slits positioned horizontally below the capsule rim.





## *Melia azedarach* (Chinaberrytree, Chinaberry)

A native of Asia, Chinaberry was brought to the U.S. in the late 1700's by a French botanist. Chinaberry has been used over the years as an ornamental plant, shade tree, and fuel wood. There are also some medicinal applications for Chinaberry including a peptide isolated from leaf tissue that is effective against the herpes simplex virus. Unfortunately, Chinaberry has all the qualities of a successful weed. This plant is adaptable to many environmental conditions, is virtually disease and insect free, and thrives in disturbed or open areas.

Chinaberry is not currently listed on Florida's Noxious Weed list, nor is it listed on the Federal Noxious Weed List. Distribution of Chinaberry is not limited to the United States (from Virginia to Florida and westward to Texas) for it is common in Central America, the Virgin Islands, and Puerto Rico. Chinaberry is known to form dense thickets in forests and marshes, displacing native vegetation as it grows. It is also a very common hedgerow tree.

SOURCE: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/melia-azedarach/>





## *Merremia tuberosa* (yellow morning-glory, woodrose, Hawaiian woodrose)

Description: Perennial, woody to herbaceous vine. Leaves alternate, simple, palmately lobed, elliptic. Flowers showy, solitary, yellow, tubular, 6 cm wide, and on long stalks. Sepals large, brown, persist after the flower and surround the fruit (resembling a wooden rose).

Fruit a round, capsule with 1-4 hairy, black seeds

SOURCE: [http://fnai.org/Invasives/Merremia\\_tuberosa\\_FNAI.pdf](http://fnai.org/Invasives/Merremia_tuberosa_FNAI.pdf)





## *Mikania micrantha* (Mile-a-minute, bittervine)

A new weed was reported in late 2009 near Homestead, FL. After several consultations and DNA analysis, it was determined that the plant is *Mikania micrantha*, also known by common names mile-a-minute (WWSA Composite List of Weeds, January 2010), Chinese creeper, climbing hempweed, and bittervine.

### General Description

Mile-a-minute is a highly branched perennial vine. Leaves are opposite and heart-shaped (Figure 2), 2–5 inches long and 1–3 inches wide, and taper to an acute point. In Florida, it likely flowers in November and December, with seed set occurring primarily in December. Seeds are tufted (Figure 3), making them well-equipped for wind dispersal.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ag338>





# *Mimosa pigra* (Black mimosa, Catclaw mimosa)

## Appearance

Sprawling, often thicket-forming shrub to 6 m (20 ft) tall, with hairy stems bearing numerous recurved prickles to 7 mm (0.3 in) long.

## Leaves

Alternate, twice compound, sensitive to touch; leaf petiole and rachis to 20 cm (8 in) long, prickles at junctions, 5–12 pairs of pinnae; each pinna with 24–31 pairs of leaflets, these to 8 mm (0.3 in) long, often with threadlike hairs on margins.

## Flowers

Small, mauve to pink, in stalked, dense, spherical heads; about 1 cm (0.5 in) across, with about 100 flowers per head; 8 stamens.

## Fruit

A brown-bristly, segmented, flat pod to 8 cm (3 in) long and 1.4 cm (0.5 in) wide, with the 9–24 segments breaking free individually; each containing a seed. Pods in clusters, or “hands” (of usually 7) at stem tips.

## Ecological threat

Has formed dense understories in swamps, shading out native tree seedlings and altering bird, reptile, and vegetation communities.

Source: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/mimosa-pigra/>





# *Neyraudia reynaudiana* (Burmareed, silkreed)

## Appearance

Robust, reed-like perennial to 3 m (10 ft) tall, forming clumps from short, coarse rhizomes. Stems often branched and filled with soft pith.

## Leaves

Sheaths 10–25 cm (4–10 in) long, smooth, shining, clasping, woolly at the top with a line of collar hairs and ligule of hairs. Blades linear, flat or involute, 20–100 cm (8–39 in) long and 8–25 mm (0.3–1 in) wide, glabrous below, sparsely short-hairy above, with margins smooth or rough and midvein inconspicuous; blades often deciduous from sheaths.

## Flowers

In a large, terminal, hairy, branched panicle; spike-lets with 5–10 florets; florets hairy, with a short awn between two terminal teeth.

## Fruit

1.5–3 mm (0.06–0.12 in) long, narrowly elliptic.

## Ecological threat

Able to colonize marginal and undisturbed habitats once established in an area. Well established in the globally rare pine rockland habitats of Dade County and viewed as a threat to rare species there, especially since its high flammability promotes frequent fires, enhancing its spread.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/neyraudia-reynaudiana/>





## ***Paederia* spp. (Sewervine, skunkvine, onion vine)**

Sometime before 1897 at a USDA Field Station, *Paederia foetida*, or skunkvine, was introduced from Asia to Hernando County, Florida as a potential fiber crop. Skunkvine was reported as a troublesome weed very early in its introduction, escaping into native areas throughout Florida. It was soon recognized as an economically important invasive weed. In 1993, skunkvine was labeled a Category 1 species on the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council's List of Invasive Species. In 1999, it was placed on the Florida Noxious Weed List. Currently skunkvine is found in at least 17 counties in central and north central Florida.

This invasive plant did not receive its common name "skunkvine" for smelling like a rose. In fact the species name, *foetida*, is Latin for "stinky" or "foul smelling". When the leaves or stems of skunkvine are crushed or broken, a displeasing, foul odor is released. The foul odor of skunkvine is derived from the sulfur compounds in its leaves.

SOURCE: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/paederia-foetida/>





## *Panicum repens* (Torpedograss)

- Thick mats stop navigation and water movement
- Displaces native plants in wet soils and shallow waters
- Resists control due to extensive starch-laden rhizomes
- Most widely dispersed invasive exotic plant in Florida public waters (present in 80%)
- Rapid growth and spread on exposed wet soils
- source: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/manage/why-manage-plants/floridas-most-invasive-plants/torpedograss/>





## *Pennisetum purpureum* (Elephantgrass, Napiergrass)

Napier grass is not native to Florida. It is also known as elephant grass. There are more than 100 species of *Pennisetum*, some of which are cultivated for grain. Napier grass was introduced to Florida as a forage crop. It is found in swamps and bottomlands and often infests canals, ditches, and irrigated areas of southern Florida.

Napier grass is a large perennial grass with erect stems that grow to 15 feet tall. The leaves are flat and strap-like, up to an inch-and-a-half wide, and several feet long. They have fine-toothed margins, and sparse hairs on the leaf surface. The ligule is composed of long hairs. The inflorescence of napier grass is a cylindrical spike at the top of the stem. It is greenish-tan, 5 to 12 inches long, and about an inch in diameter. The spike is densely packed with flowering spikelets. Many of the spikelets have very long bristles.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/pennisetum-purpureum/>





## *Pistia stratiotes* (Water lettuce)

An aquatic weed worldwide in rivers, lakes and ponds of temperate climates  
temperature tolerance: water lettuce is not winter-hardy; its minimum growth temperature is 15° C (59° F); its optimum growth temperature is 22-30° C (72-86° F); its maximum growth temperature is 35° C.

**free-floating** except when stranded in the mud; singly or massed in large numbers; mother and daughter plants attached by short stolons. **Thick soft leaves** are formed in rosettes, with no leaf stems; leaves to 6 in. long; light green; with parallel ridges (veins), covered in short hairs; leaf margins wavy, top margins scalloped.

**Flowers** inconspicuous (not observed in Florida till the 1980s though they had been flowering all along); nearly hidden in the center amongst the leaves; on small stalk, single female flower below and whorl of male flowers above. **Roots** hanging submersed beneath floating leaves; feathery, numerous.

**Fruit:** a green berry

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/pistia-stratiotes/>





## *Pueraria montana* var. *lobata* (Kudzu)

Kudzu was introduced to the United States from Japan in 1876 at the Philadelphia Centennial Exposition, as an ornamental plant. In early 1900s, it was recognized and promoted as a forage crop and planted throughout the southeastern U.S. In the 1930s and 1940s, the Soil Conservation Service paid southern farmers to plant kudzu to reduce soil erosion on deforested lands, resulting in over 1 million acres being planted. Kudzu, nicknamed “the vine that ate the South,” was recognized as a pest weed in the 1950s and removed from the list of acceptable species in the Agricultural Conservation Program. In 1998, it was listed as a federal noxious weed by the U.S. Congress.

SOURCE: <https://www.nps.gov/plants/alien/pubs/midatlantic/pumol.htm>





## *Rhodomyrtus tomentosa* (Rose myrtle, Downy rose-myrtle)

Downy rose myrtle is an evergreen shrub that usually grows to 6 feet tall, but occasionally to 12 feet tall. It can grow into large monocultures. Its leaves are opposite, simple, entire, elliptic-oval, to 3 in. long. The leaves are glossy green above and densely soft-hairy below, with 3 main veins from blade base. Downy rose myrtle flowers profusely in the spring. The flowers are rose-pink, to 1 in. across, in one-to few-flowered clusters at the leaf axils. The fruit is a bluish-purple globose berry about 1/2 in. across, that looks similar to blueberry but more oblong.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/rhodomyrtus-tomentosa/>





## *Rhynchelytrum repens* (Rose natalgrass, Natal grass)

The Poaceae are one of the largest families of flowering plants with about 500 genera and 8,000 species. *Rhynchelytrum repens* is an annual grass native to South Africa and is found throughout many counties in Florida. It was introduced as a forage species, but lacks the nutritional qualities of other species. Natal grass prefers dry conditions and is found in waste lands and perennial crop fields. The Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council lists natal grass as a Category I invasive.

### Description

Natal grass possesses branching culms that root at the nodes. These are able to reach 20 to 40 inches in height. The leaves are linear and 8 to 12 inches in length and grow from erect clumps. The flowers are borne in panicles 4 to 8 inches long, and are purple to pink in color with reddish hairs that turn gray with age. Although natal grass will perenniate, is primarily propagated by seeds, which are readily windborne.

SOURCE: <http://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/melinis-repens/>





## *Ricinus communis* (Castorbean, castor oil plant, palma christi, wonder tree)

This small-statured tree comes from northeastern Africa and the Middle East. It is non-native to Florida and considered a Category II invasive species by the Florida Exotic Pest Plant Council because it is abundant throughout Florida but has not yet displaced native plant communities. This fast-growing plant is found throughout tropical and subtropical climates on disturbed sites such as edges of roads, old fields, and rocky slopes. Castor bean grows best in full sun and can reach heights of up to 40 feet where frost is not present. In colder climates where temperatures drop below freezing, castor bean functions like an annual plant and only reaches heights of 15 feet. Leaves are simple and alternate and can grow very large; from 15 to 30 inches wide. The green to reddish leaves are lopsidedly peltate, with the petiole attaching to the interior of the blade above the center point. Each leaf has 5 to 11 major veins radiating outward into narrow lobes with jagged margins. In warmer climates, the semi-woody trunk can reach a foot in diameter, whereas in colder climates the plant remains herbaceous and exhibits slower growing habits. Flowers appear in summer and fall on tall spikes up to 18 inches long that grow out of the top of the stems. Male and female flowers appear on the same spike, with the yellow male flowers pollinating the red female flowers. The fruit is a ½- to 1-inch diameter, spiny capsule that turns from yellow to blue-green and then to brown as it matures. Each capsule houses three small, poisonous seeds that resemble dog ticks.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/fr306>



© TopTropicals.com



## *Sapium sebiferum* (Popcorn tree, Chinese tallowtree)

Characteristics that make Chinese tallow a popular ornamental are its fast growth rate, attractive fall color, and its ability to resist damage from pests. It is a small to medium-sized tree that grows to about 20 feet tall, but some specimens can reach 40-50 feet. It is freely branching with leaves arranged alternately on branches. The leaves have acuminate tips and entire margins, with broadly ovate leaf blades and rounded bases. The flowers of Chinese tallow are attractive to bees and other insects and are borne in spikes roughly 8 inches long. The fruit is a three-lobed capsule (0.5 inches) and seeds are covered with vegetable tallow, a white waxy coating. Fruit ripens from August to November.

Chinese tallow trees are deciduous with a strong, deep taproot. This enables young trees to withstand periods of drought. Seeds are spread by many species of birds, and moving water can also serve as a mechanism for seed dispersal.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/triadica-sebifera/>





## *Scaevola taccada* (Beach naupaka, scaevola, half-flower)

**Appearance:** Large, bushy shrub to 5 m (16 ft) tall, often forming dense hemispherical mounds.

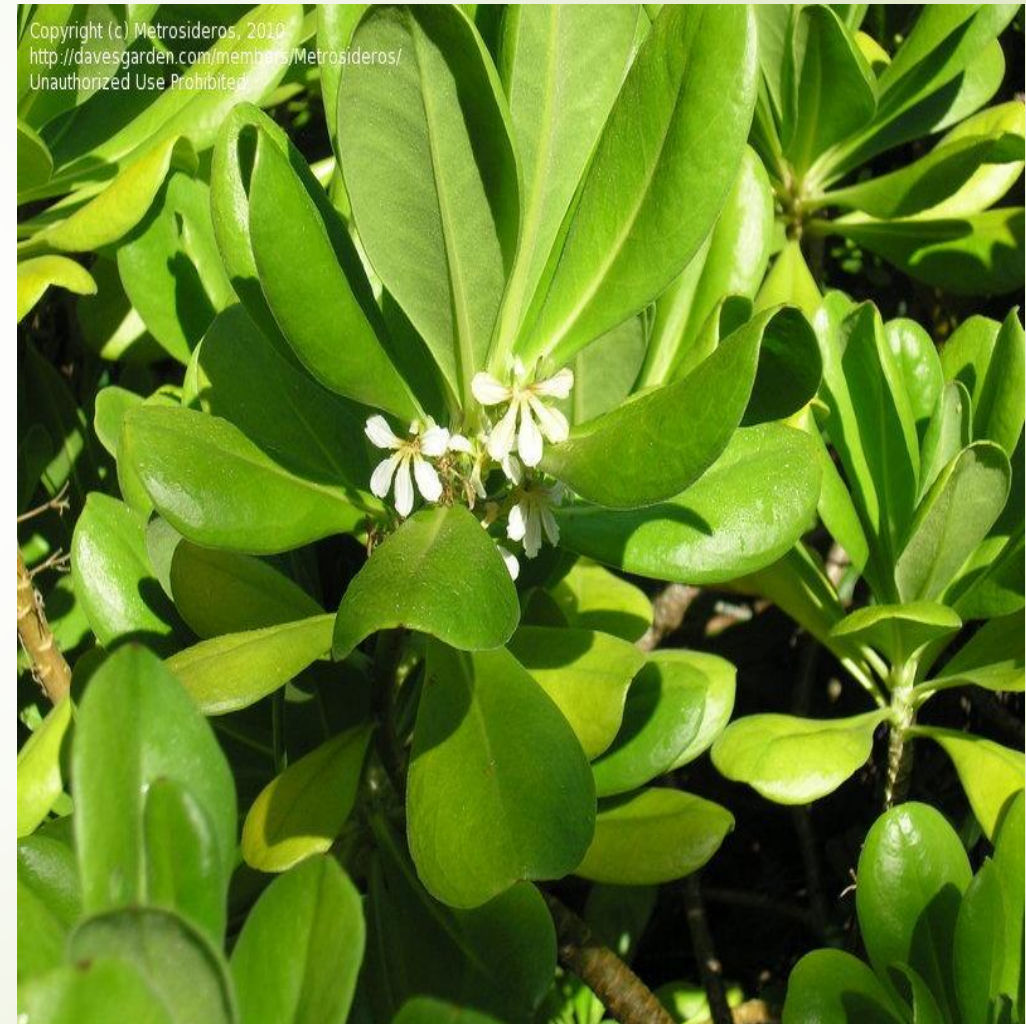
**Leaves:** Simple, closely alternate, crowded at stem tips; blades thick, shiny green, wider near tips, to 21 cm (8.3 in) long; glabrous to hairy on both sides, margins revolute, light green becoming yellow with age; leaf axils with tufts of pale hairs.

**Flowers:** White to pale lilac, several in short clusters at leaf axils; 5 petals, partially fused, split to base on upper side so that petal lobes spread fanlike into a lower lip.

**Fruit:** A fleshy, sub-spherical drupe, green then white, 8–12 mm (0.3–0.5 in) long, with sepal lobes persistent at tip.

**Ecological threat:** Appears to be supplanting native coastal vegetation and has begun to displace rare native beach plants, such as the inkberry and the Florida endangered sea lavender.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/scaevola-taccada/>





## *Schefflera actinophylla* (Australian umbrella tree, octopus tree, Queensland umbrella tree)

The large, palmately compound, shiny leaves sit atop the multiple, thin, bare trunks of Schefflera, creating much the impression of an exotic, 25-foot-tall plant-umbrella. Schefflera lends a tropical effect to any landscape use, from patio containers to interiorscapes to protected outdoor locations. Capable of reaching 40 feet in height, Schefflera will grow rapidly to create a dense windbreak or screen for property lines. When grown in full sun, trees will produce flowers during the summer, an unusual arrangement of small blooms on three-foot-diameter, stiff terminal clusters. These clusters are held above the foliage and are arranged like the ribs of an inverted umbrella, or like the tentacles of an octopus. The red blooms are followed by reddish-purple, half-inch fruits.

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/st585>





## *Schinus terebinthifolius* (Brazilian pepper, Christmas berry tree, Florida holly)

*Schinus terebinthifolius* is neither from Florida nor a holly. The plant was brought to the state in the early 1800's from South America to be cultivated and sold as an ornamental plant. *S. terebinthifolius* is a member of the Anacardiaceae family which includes poison ivy, poison oak, poison sumac, and poisonwood. Sensitive people may develop severe dermatitis if their bare skin comes into contact with the sap or resins of *S. terebinthifolius*. Many people also report respiratory problems when the plant is in bloom.

In other countries *S. terebinthifolius* is often grown for culinary purposes. The berries, when dried, are the Pink Peppercorns in products such as McCormick Spice's "Peppercorn Mélange". The seed when crushed releases a sweet, volatile, pine-like aroma faintly smelling like piperine oil, the key component in true black pepper. The flavor of Pink Peppercorns is sweet, warm, fresh and camphorous with a lingering astringency but little heat. Bees love the plant's flowers and make honey from their nectar. Raccoons and 'possums eat the fruit of the plant and contribute to its spread by passing the seeds in their scat. Fruit-eating birds such as the migratory American Robin also adore the fruit and can seed wide areas by passing the seeds in their guano. It is reported that certain birds and other wildlife during certain times of the year adore the berries of this plant for their narcotic effects.

SOURCE: <http://www.floridagardener.com/pom/schinusterebinthifolius.htm>





## *Senna pendula* var. *glabrata* (Valamuerto, Climbing cassia, Christmas cassia, Christmas senna)

Christmas senna is an open, sprawling, evergreen shrub that gets up to 12 ft (3.7 m) tall with about the same spread. The leaves are pinnately compound with 3-5 pairs of oval leaflets, increasing in size toward the tip, and averaging about 1.5 in (3.8 cm) in length. Christmas senna blooms in late summer and fall (and through the winter if there's no frost) with bright yellow flowers, about 1/2 in (1.3 cm) wide in long-stalked racemes (spike-like clusters) consisting of 3-12 blossoms. The mature pods are brown, cylindrical, partially segmented and 3-6 in (7.6-15.2 cm) long.

SOURCE: <http://floridata.com/Plants/Fabaceae/Senna%20pendula/578>





## *Solanum tampicense* (Aquatic soda apple, wetland nightshade)

Wetland nightshade (AKA aquatic soda apple) is found growing in floodplain forests of the central peninsula and Monroe County. It is native to the West Indies, Mexico, and Central America and blooms in the fall (Wunderlin, 2003).

### **Appearance**

Straggly and sprawling prickly shrub, woody below; herbaceous above, with prickly green stems to 5 m (16 ft) long and 1.5 cm (0.5 in) in diameter.

### **Leaves**

Alternate, simple, with petioles to 3 cm (1.5 in) long; blades longer than wide, to 25 cm (10 in) long and 7 cm (3 in) wide, with deeply round-indent (sinuate) margins, recurved or straight prickles on veins, and stellate hairs.

### **Flowers**

Small; 3 to 11 individual flowers in stalked, branched clusters at leaf axils; petals white, mostly free (fused only at base), spreading or often recurved; stamens with yellow anthers held closely and erect in center of flower.

### **Fruit**

A small, spherical, tomato-like berry to 1 cm (0.4 in) wide, shiny solid green turning orange then bright red at maturity, with 10 to 60 yellowish, flat-round seeds.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/solanum-tampicense/>





## *Solanum viarum* (Tropical soda apple)

Tropical soda apple (TSA), *Solanum viarum* Dunal (Solanaceae) is a weed native to southeastern Brazil, northeastern Argentina, Paraguay, and Uruguay that has invaded Florida grasslands and natural ecosystems. In 1988, TSA was first reported in the USA in Glades County, Florida (Coile 1993, Mullahey and Colvin 1993). The pathway of introduction is unknown, but it may have been accidentally introduced with cattle carrying undigested TSA seeds that were imported from Brazil. In 1993, a survey of beef cattle operations in south Florida estimated that there were 157,145 ha of infested pastureland, twice the infestation present in 1992 (Mullahey et al. 1994). The infested area increased to more than 303,000 ha in 1995 (Mullahey 1996, Mullahey et al. 1998). Currently, more than 404,000 ha are believed to be infested in Florida (Medal et al. 2010b). Due, at least in part, to favorable environmental conditions, a lack of natural enemies (herbivores and pathogens), and seed dispersal by wildlife and cattle feeding on the fruits, TSA has spread rapidly and has been observed in the majority of Florida counties and also in Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Tennessee, Texas, and Puerto Rico (Bryson & Byrd Jr. 1996, Dowler 1996, Mullahey et al. 1993, 1998, Medal et al. 2003, 2010a). Although TSA has been reported in Pennsylvania and Tennessee, it is highly probable that it does not overwinter in these states. Patterson (1996) studied the effects of temperatures and photoperiods on TSA in controlled environmental chambers and speculated that the range of TSA could expand northward into the Midwestern US. TSA was placed on the Florida and Federal Noxious Weed Lists in 1995.

SOURCE: <https://plants.ifas.ufl.edu/plant-directory/solanum-viarum/>





## *Talipariti tiliaceum* (Mahoe, sea hibiscus, yellow mahoe)

**Description:** Shrub or tree, evergreen, 4-10 m tall and wide, bark gray-white. Leaves alternate, blade nearly orbicular to broadly ovate, 8-15 by 8-15 cm, leathery, green, abaxially densely gray-white stellate puberulent, adaxially very sparsely stellate scaly, glabrescent, basal veins 7 or 9, base cordate, margin entire or obscurely crenate, apex abruptly acuminate, petiole 3-8 cm long. Inflorescence a 1- to few-flowered cyme, terminal or axillary. Flower stalk 1-3 cm, with 1 pair of stipulelike bracteoles at base. Calyx 1.5-2.5 cm, connate proximally for 1/4- 1/3 of length, lobes 5, lanceolate, stellate puberulent, persistent. Corolla yellow with dark purple center, campanulate, 6-7.5 cm in diameter, petals obovate, 4-4.5 cm, yellow stellate puberulent abaxially. Filament tube ca. 3 cm, glabrous. Style branches 5, slender, with glandular hairs. Capsule subglobose to ovoid, ca. 2 cm, obscurely beaked, densely fascicled-hirsute; valves 5, woody. Seeds reniform, smooth, glabrous (Flora of China).

SOURCE: [http://fnai.org/Invasives/Talipariti\\_tiliaceum\\_FNAI.pdf](http://fnai.org/Invasives/Talipariti_tiliaceum_FNAI.pdf)





## *Tectaria incisa* (Incised halberd fern)

Botanical Description: Terrestrial or epilithic (on rock) in habit.

Rhizomes stout, shortcreeping, with brownish black scales. Leaves (fronds) pale green, once pinnate, fertile and sterile fronds similar in shape and size; petioles as long or longer than blades, pale brown above, dark brown and scaly at base, pubescent on both sides; blades to 90 cm (35 in) long and 60 cm (24 in) wide, with a large, deeply lobed terminal leaflet (pinna) and below that, 3-6 pairs of mostly entire pinnae; each leaflet of the lowest pair with usually 1 large, downward-pointing (basiscopic) lobe. Sori in 1-several rows on lower surface of leaflets between midvein and margin; indusia (tissue covering sporangia) round-reniform, attached at 1 edge (not centrally attached).

SOURCE: [http://www.fleppc.org/ID\\_book/Tectaria%20incisa.pdf](http://www.fleppc.org/ID_book/Tectaria%20incisa.pdf)





## ***Thespesia populnea* (Portia tree, seaside mahoe, cork tree, false rosewood)**

Description: Evergreen shrub or tree, commonly to 13 m tall, with young branches minutely brown-scaly. Leaves alternate, simple, petioles 5–10 cm long, blades entire, heart shaped, shiny dark green above, 5–20 cm long, usually with 5 main veins from base. Flowers showy, hibiscus -like, single in upper leaf axils, to 8 cm across. Corolla yellow with a red center, turning maroon by nightfall. Stamens united into a column shorter than petals. Fruit a leathery, flattened globose, 5-parted capsule, 4 cm wide, yellow turning black, persisting unopened for a time. Seeds several, hairy, brown.

SOURCE: [http://fnai.org/Invasives/Thespesia\\_populnea\\_FNAI.pdf](http://fnai.org/Invasives/Thespesia_populnea_FNAI.pdf)





## ***Tribulus cistoides* (Puncture vine, burrnut, Jamaican feverplant, billy-goat weed, large yellow caltrop)**

Description: Perennial (sometimes annual) herb, with many-branched trailing stems to 1 m long or longer. Tap root woody, stems often slightly woody at base, tips erect, younger stems covered with silky hairs. Leaves opposite, to 10 cm long, even-pinnate. Leaflets in 5-8 pairs, elliptic or oblong, to 2.8 cm long and 1.2 cm wide, covered with silky hairs, margins entire, bases rounded, tips bluntly pointed. Terminal leaflet pair spine tipped. Stipules linear, to 0.7 cm long. Flowers showy, solitary in leaf axils, on long, hairy stalks 2 to 3 cm long, sepals 5, lance shaped, petals 5, bright yellow, rounded, to 2.5 cm long. Fruit a hard spiny capsule, burr-like, to 1.5 cm across, splitting into 4 or 5 segments, each of which has two sharp spines to 8 mm long and contains one or more seeds.

SOURCE: [http://www.fnai.org/Invasives/Tribulus\\_cistoides\\_FNAI.pdf](http://www.fnai.org/Invasives/Tribulus_cistoides_FNAI.pdf)





## *Urochloa mutica* (Paragrass)

Paragrass (also referred to as Californiagrass) is thought to have been introduced into Florida sometime in the late 1870s (Austin 1978) as a forage plant (Godfrey and Wooten 1979). The semiaquatic grass is a native of tropical Africa, and today it is established in both hemispheres in tropical and subtropical regions as a highly palatable fodder (Handley and Ekern 1981; Vicente-Chandler et al. 1974). In the United States, paragrass has become naturalized in cultivated and ruderal areas. The grass is established in regions of poorly drained soils and along freshwater shorelines in Alabama, Florida, Hawaii, Maryland, Oregon, South Carolina, and Texas (Handley and Ekern 1981).

SOURCE: <http://edis.ifas.ufl.edu/ag375>

